

1084. l. 26.

Glant

A
COLLECTION
OF
LETTERS

WRITTEN BY

Cardinal BENTIVOGLIO.

A
COLLECTION
OF
LETTERS

WRITTEN BY

Cardinal BENTIVOGLIO,

During the Time he was Nuncio in *France*
and *Flanders*.

Translated from the Original *Italian*.

L O N D O N:

Printed for the AUTHOR;
And Sold by G. STEIDEL, at the *Bible*
and *Crown*, in *New Bond-street*. 1753.

901
5



47.
2. / 12.
2.

(i)

TO HER
ROYAL HIGHNESS

THE PRINCESS

C A R O L I N E.

Madam,

I Have no Plea for presuming to lay this Book at your Feet, more than from the Hopes that your Royal Highness's Name at the Head of it, will protect and guard me from the Censure of the World. Here I might justly enumerate your many great and good Qualities ; but as Dedications to Personages in your high Rank, are ever suspected to contain nothing but Flattery, (an Incense by no Means grateful to a Mind exalted as yours) I forbear to touch upon that Subject. The
A Heart

Heart conscious of doing Right, furnishes to itself a Succession of pleasing Ideas ; and waits not for public Applause to crown its Felicity.

When I began this small Work, I did it with no other View than to amuse myself : Afterwards, some particular Friends read it, and persuaded me to give it to the Public. I sincerely wish your Royal Highness all Happiness, and humbly beg Leave for the Honour of subscribing myself,

Madam,

Your most dutiful,

obedient and

devoted Servant,

The Translator.

T H E
P R E F A C E.

TO such of my Readers as are unacquainted with the History of those Times in which the Cardinal wrote the following Letters, I address this short Introduction, which I hope may not be disagreeable. After the reformed Religion had at different Times prevailed in several Parts of Europe, the See of Rome, alarmed! has ever been vigilant to check the Growth of it. Amongst all the Methods made use of to support the Credit and Power of the Romish Clergy, an ecclesiastical Inquisition has been the favourite Point of the Court of Rome, as the most proper Method to intimidate and deter the People. But in this we find the Pope has not always been successful, for many, even among the Roman Catholicks themselves, would not acquiesce in so dangerous an Institution, nor suffer this dreadful Tribunal, to be introduced among them. Spain however, endeavoured to extend her Inquisition into the Low Countries, which occasioned a general Revolt of the Inhabitants, who withdrew themselves from the Sovereignty of that Crown, assisted by the Arms and Councils of the Great Prince of Orange, and began that glorious Union, which afterwards grew into the formidable Republick, now called the States-General of the United Provinces.

Spain, tired out with the Loss of much Blood and Treasure, after a calamitous unsuccessful War of forty Years, agreed to a Suspension of Arms, for settling a Peace, which gave Occasion to Pope

Paul V. to nominate Cardinal Bentivoglio his Minister, to assist at that Treaty, to try what could be obtained, in Favour of the Catholick Religion in Holland. This, the following Letters, contained in the first Part, treat of; giving an Account of his Eminency's setting out upon that Embassy.

About this Time the reformed Religion had made a considerable Progress amongst the Hugonots in France, and as the young King was upon the Point of taking the Reins of the Government into his own Hands, the Pope judged it might not be improper to send an Ambassador to make Representations upon the Increase of Hereſy in that Kingdom.

As the Cardinal, on his Return from Flanders to Rome, had acquitted himself to that See with great Reputation and Satisfaction, having shewed his great Zeal for the Catholick Religion, as well as the indefatigable Pains he had taken in the Management of the publick Affairs of his Embassy, his Address and Abilities recommended him a second Time to that high Post, as he was judged the most proper Person to be employed in such an Embassy, to set forth the dangerous Consequences it might be to the established monarchical Government of France, to tolerate any other than that of the Catholick Religion.

The second Part addressed to the Duke of Monteleone, of whom some Account is given before the Letters, are chiefly relative to the unhappy Differences then subsisting between Lewis XIII. and the Queen Mother, which are pointed out at large by his Eminency, with the Evil thereof to the Kingdom in general, and the great Support and Encouragement to the Hugonots in particular, consequently contrary to the Interest of the See of Rome,

SUBSCRIBERS

TO

Cardinal BENTIVOGLIO's.

LETTERS.

Her Royal Highness the Princess CAROLINE.

A

THE Right Hon. the Earl of Aberdeen
The Right Hon. the Countess of Ancram

William Adair, Esq;

Hon. Mrs. Aston

Mrs. Aislaby

Mrs. Allgood

Mrs. Adamson

Miss Ashley

Miss Elizabeth Aigoin

B

Her Grace the Duchess of Bedford

Right Hon. the Earl of Berkeley

Right Hon. the Earl of Bristol
Right Hon. the Lady Viscountess Bateman
Right Hon. Lord Burleigh
The Hon. Admiral Boscawen
The Hon. Mrs. Boscawen
The Hon. George Barnwell
Sir Hanson Berney, Bart.
The Lady Blacket, of Wallington
The Lady Blount, two Books
Capt. Bradshaigh
Archibald Bowers, Esq;
Miss Bacon
William Burton, Esq;
Mrs. Burton, two Books
Bartholemew Burton, Esq;
Mrs. Brickendon, of Ink Pen
Miss Brickendon
Wheeler Brooke, Esq;
Mrs. Frances Burdet, of Yorkshire
Mrs. Boehm,
Thomas Bathurst, Esq; of Lidney-Park
Mrs. Bathurst
Mrs. Byde, of Benjo
Francis Barnard, Esq;
—— Barloe, Esq;
Mrs. Bowes
Mrs. Bethel
Mrs. Bourgoine
Mrs. Baynton
Mrs. Binyon
Mrs. Blake
Mrs. Blake, Great Russel-Street, Bloomsbury
Right

C

Right Hon. the Earl Cowper
Right Hon. Lady Harriot Campbell
Right Hon. Lady Sarah Cowper
Right Hon. Lady Caroline Cowper
Right Hon. Lord Carysfort
Right Hon. the Countess of Coningsby
The Hon. and Rev. Dr. Cowper, Dean of
 Durham
The Hon. Mrs. Cornwallis
The Hon. Colonel Cary
The Hon. Mrs. Cary
Sir Thomas Clavering, Bart.
Mrs. Clavering, of Leicester-House
 ———— *Charles, Esq;*
Dr. Conyers
James Comyns, Esq;
Mrs. Comyns
 ———— *Cawley, Esq;*
Mrs. Calvert, of Albury-Hall
Mrs. Alizia Calaghan
Mrs. Elizabeth Crowley
Miss Cotton, of Stretton
William Clayton, Esq;
Mrs. Clayton
Charles Cotterell, Esq;
Mrs. Clutterbuck
Miss Corbett
Capt. George Coburn
Mrs. Cowper, of Hertingfordbury
John Mordant Cope, Esq;
James Edward Colleton, Esq;

Miss Conyers
Miss Mary Conyers
Colonel Clavering
——— Congreve, Esq;
Miss Carr

D

The Right Hon. Lord Dunc
The Lady Dashwood
Colonel Dingley
Robert Dingley, Esq;
Dr. Dealtry, of York
Mrs. Delabene, of York

E

Mrs. Echlin

F

The Right Hon. Lord Viscount Fitzmaurice
The Right Hon. Lady Viscountess Falmouth
The Lady Farnaby, of Queen-square, Or-
mond-street
The Lady Fagg, of Woodon
Sambrooke Freeman, Esq;
——— Fonnereau, Esq;
——— Fox, Esq;
Mrs. Floyd
Thomas Foster, Esq;

G

The Right Hon. Lady Betty Germain
The Right Hon. Lady Hester Grenville
The Right Hon. Lady Viscountess Gallway
The Hon. John Grey
The Lady Gray, of Denhill
Sir James Gray, Bart.

Sir

Sir Henry Grey, Bart.

John Grey, Esq;

Colonel Gray

Mrs. Gray

Mrs. Gower

John Granger, Esq;

William Gee, Esq;

—— *Gunning, Esq;*

Mrs. Gore

Mr. Grange, three Books

H

The Right Hon. Lord Viscount Hobart

The Right Hon. Lady Herbert, of Cherbury

The Lady Hylton

Thomas Orby Hunter, Esq;

Mrs. Hunter

Miss Hunter

Miss Kitty Hunter

Mrs. Hyet

Miss Hyet

Miss Hartly

John Hill, Esq; of Thornton

Mrs. Hawley

Timothy Hutchenson, Esq;

George Hind, Esq;

Charles Grave Hudson, Esq;

Colonel Hildesley

Mrs. Hucks

Thomas Hill

I

Sir Hildebrand Jacob, Bart.

Ralph Jenison, Esq;

Miss

(x)

Miss Ingram, of Temple Newsum
Mrs. Jessop
Miss Jones

K

The Right Hon. Lord Kingston
The Right Hon. Lady Kingston
Mrs. Knipe, of Richmond
Randolph Knipe, Esq;
Mr. Keck, of Twickenham
The Rev. Mr. Knipe
Mrs. Knipe, *two Books*

L

The Right Rev. the Lord Bishop of Litchfield
and Coventry
The Right Hon. Lord Langdale
The Right Hon. Henry Legge, Esq;
The Hon. Mrs. Legge
The Hon. Mrs. Langdale, of Holme
The Hon. Sir George Littleton, *Bart.*
The Hon. Mrs. H. Legge
The Lady Lawson
The Hon. Miss Lawson
The Rev. Dr. Littleton, *Dean of* Exeter
Mrs. Lake
Mrs. Sarah Lowry
Edwin Lascelles, Esq;
Mrs. Lascelles
Beaston Long, Esq;
Colonel Lampton

M

His Grace the Duke of Marlborough
The Right Hon. Lord Viscount Malpas

The

The Right Hon. Lady Viscountess Malpas
The Right Hon. Lord Viscount Middleton
The Right Hon. Lady Dowager Middleton
Major General Sir John Mordaunt, Knight of
the Bath
The Lady Milbanke
Sir William Middleton, Bart. of Belsay-
Castle
Sir William Milner, Bart.
The Lady Milner
The Lady Milner, of Park-Street
Mrs. Middleton, of St. James's
The Rev. Mr. Middleton, of Long Horsley
John Mark, Esq; of Richmond
Mrs. Moore
Mrs. Mayser, of York
Mrs. Sarah Mayser, of York
John Murray, Esq; of York
Miss Murray, of York
Mrs. Mary Milner
Mrs. Frances Milner
Valentine Morris, Esq;
Mrs. Morris
Mr. Macarthy
Mr. James Macarthy
Mr. Morris, of Queen-Street
Colonel Madan
William Murray, Esq;
The Rev. Mr. Thomas Murray
Mrs. Montague
—— Morris, Esq;
Mrs. Mason

N

Right Hon. the Earl of Northumberland
Right Hon. the Countess of Northumberland
Right Rev. the Lord Bishop of Norwich
The Lady Newdigate
Miss Nevil
Miss Nicholls, *of Great Ormond-Street*
Mr. Nichol, *of Court-Lodge in Suffex*
Mrs. Nelthorp, *of Sea-Croft*
George Nelthorp, *Esq; junior*
The Rev. Mr. Nash
Colonel Noel

O

Right Hon. the Countess of Ossory
Henry Oxenden, *Esq;*
Dr. Oliver
Mrs. Osborn

P

The Right Hon. Lord Viscount Powiscount
The Right Hon. Lord Viscount Pultney
The Hon. Mrs. Poyntz
Mrs. R. Poyntz
Mrs. Peters
Miss Perkins
Mrs. Prince
William Pit, *Esq; of Kingston*
Richard Pierson, *Esq;*
Uvedale Price, *Esq;*
Thomas Pullen, *Esq;*
Mrs. Pye, *of Grosvenor-Street*
Mrs. Mary Pye, *ditto*
Mrs. Mary Poyntz

Mrs.

Mrs. Pattin
Thomas Parker, *Esq*;
Mrs. Pinfon
Mrs. Payne

R

Right Hon. the Marchioness of Rockingham
Right Hon. Lord Ravensworth
Right Hon. Lady Ravensworth
Sir Thomas Robinson, Baronet
The Lady Rich
Mrs. Robethorn, of St. James's, two Books
Mrs. Rowley
—— Rickenfon, *Esq*;
Mrs. Renardfon
William Henry Rickets, *Esq*;
Erancis Reynolds, *Esq*;
Mathew Redley, *Esq*;

S

The Right Hon. the Earl of Stamford
The Right Hon. the Countess of Stamford
The Right Hon. Lord George Sackville
The Hon. Baron Smythe
Sir Jeremy Sambrooke, Bart.
Sir William St. Quintin, Bart. of Scamston
The Lady St. Quintin
Augustus Schutz, *Esq*;
Robert Shafto, *Esq*;
Captain Shafto
Mrs. Sambrooke
Mrs. Shaw
Mrs. Swinton, *of St. James's*

Mrs.

Mrs. Sloper, of South Andley-Street

Capt. Sloper

Mrs. Sloper

The Rev. Dr. Shipley

Mrs. Betty Sambrooke

T

The Right Hon. the Earl of Temple

The Right Hon. the Countess of Temple

The Right Hon. Lady Talbot

The Hon. Roger Townshend

The Hon. Horatio Townshend

The Hon. Commodore George Townshend

The Rev. Dr. Terrick

Mrs. Terrick

Mrs. Thompson, of Hambleton

John Thompson, *Esq.*,

John Tilson, *Esq.*;

V

Right Hon. Lady Grace Vane

Miss Vernon

Miss Arathusa Vernon, Grosvenor-Street

W

Right Hon. the Lord Chief-Justice Willes

Right Hon. Lady Windsor

Right Hon. Lady Betty Waldegrave

Hon. Mrs. Westley

Lady Wentworth, seven Books

Lady Willes

John Willes, *Esq.*;

Mrs. Wetherington

Talbot Williamson, *Esq.*;

Mrs. Wilberforce

Mrs.

Mrs. Web
Farrer Wren, *Esq; of* Binchester
Mrs. Windham, *of* Fir-Grove
Mrs. Warton, *of* Beverly
John Warde, *Esq; of* Squerrie
Mrs. Warde
Henry Wilmot, *Esq;*
Mrs. Wilmot
Mrs. Witton, *of* Lupset
Edward Willes, *Esq;*
Mrs. Willes
Thomas Wilson, *Esq;*
Mrs. Warren
Mrs. Wolafton
Thomas Wetham, *Esq;*
Mrs. Wharton
Mrs. Wyvill

Y

John York, *Esq;*

L E T T E R S

WRITTEN BY THE

Cardinal BENTIVOGLIO.

L E T T E R I.

To the Bishop of St. Sepulcher, at Rome.

I Am no sooner arrived at *Ferrara* than I advise your Excellency of it, no Time has elapsed between quitting my Coach and taking my Pen. From *Rome* to *Loretta*, the Heat was agreeable ; but from *Loretta* to *Ferrara*, the Air seemed on Fire. During my Stay at *Macerati* I was with Cardinal *Visconti* ; at *Ravenna* with his Eminency Cardinal *Aldebrandino*, and at *Faenza* with Cardinal *Caetano*, where they shewed me great Civilities. Here I will pay my Respects to Cardinal *Spinola* our Legate ; stay a Week with my Relations, and then proceed on my Journey ; the greatest Part of it (and that in the most terrible Heats) yet remains, nevertheless when I have left *Italy*, the Rays of

B

the

the Sun will be more oblique ; consequently less intense. This is the first Token since we parted, of that agreeable Exchange of Regard we promised each other. But no more at this Time ; when I arrive at *Brussels* I will write again, or even sooner if I have Leisure.

I am, Sir, &c.

L E T T E R II.

To the same, at Rome.

Ferrara, June 24, 1607.

THIS second Letter, Sir, is the Produce of the *Alps* ; from whence I see nothing but what is dreadful ! so that the Description will even to you appear wild and horrible ! But in this Letter there is nothing of the *Alps*, more than the Name ; nevertheless I have undergone the Fatigue of ascending and descending for seven Days continually ; till I am at Length arrived (Thanks be to God) at *Lucern* ; which is to say, the most champain Country of all *Switzerland*. From *Ferrara* I went to *Milan*, by the Way of *Modena* and *Parma*, where I was received and lodged with great Honours by both these Princes ;

Princes; at *Milan* I was the Guest of Cardinal *Boromeo*, who entertained me with great Politeness; and after having paid my Compliments to Count *de Fuentes*, I departed from thence to come towards *Switzerland*. At *Varase*, the last Place in the *Milaneze*, I took my Leave of *Italy*; for here it begins to lose both its Name and Language. All the rest to this Place has been *Alps*, *Rocks*, and *Precipices*! one Mountain above another, and *St. Gotthard* above them all; which raises the Snow to the Skies, and at that Time displayed a Winter Scene in the Midst of Summer. But at length I am arrived at *Lucern*, distinguished by a thousand Favours conferred on me, by the Nuncio *Varalo*. *Lucern* is finely situated, standing upon a magnificent Lake, which you cross by a long handsome Wooden Bridge covered over. Yesterday the Nuncio accompanied me to the Senate; where I presented my Credentials from his Holiness, with an Harangue as usual. *Lucern* holds the first Place amongst the seven Catholic Cantons; there are five others of Hereticks, and one mixed. This is the *Swiss* Union; which they maintain by a perpetual and general Dyet, which assembles once, sometimes oftner, every Year, and where the common Interest is considered. They have other Laws, as Occasion requires; as to the rest, each Canton is a Republick of

itself, and their Form of Government very different; some are democratical, others aristocratical, others mixed. But all in general abhor a regal Power ever since they withdrew themselves from their Obedience to the House of *Austria*; for Example, at *Altorf*, through which I passed, the Inhabitants meet in the Field to vote; which they do by lifting up their Hands; for in this Manner they make their Laws, and elect their Magistrates; whereas here, it is the Senate governs, and only some particular Families are capable of being Senators; and in other Cantons the Senate does not debate in any important Occurrences, till the Populace are assembled. The *Swiss* have Alliance with several Princes (particularly with the two neighbouring Monarchs) but on different Terms. The Catholicks with the King of *Spain*; the Hereticks and the Catholicks with the *French*; but from all Quarters they receive Pay, and sell their Service to any Body; so that it is common for them to be paid by two Crowns at the same Time; but they are extremely tenacious of the Liberty of their Country to which their Situation (joined to their natural Savageness of Disposition) greatly contributes. Men here are remarkably strong, and excessive poor; then who would desire to be Master of them. The *Swiss* are for the *Alps*, the *Alps* are for the *Swiss*. To-morrow I go from hence, and in a Day
and

and an half hope to reach *Basil*. I have this Comfort amidst so many Mountains, that they defend me from the Sun in such a Manner, that amongst their immense Walls I have been sometimes half a Day without seeing it.

Lucern, July
21, 1607.

I am, Sir, &c.

L E T T E R III.

To the same, at Rome.

AT last I have cast Anchor, and am in Port, like Mariners who rejoice even before they land; so did I exult, even before I arrived in *Flanders*, at the Sight of *Luxembourg*, by which Province I entered the *Low Countries*. But first I will give you an Account of my Journey: From *Lucern* I came to *Basil*, a City famous for its Buildings and Situation, it extends itself, Part upon the Plain, and Part upon the Hills, on the Banks of the *Rhine*, which divides it on one Side, and by a Bridge unites it again; from thence I entered into *Lorain*; and cannot express with how much Civility, and Respect, I was received at *Nancy* by the Duke, and the other Princes of that Serene

House. I saw the Cardinal who dies by gentle Degrees of what has been reported Witchcraft, he retains no Sign of Life, but the Power of Speech. The Duke enjoys a great Share of Health, though seventy Years old. One cannot see a Prince of a more venerable Aspect, nor is he less remarkable for his Piety and Zeal, to the Catholick Religion, and the Holy See. In two Days from *Nancy* I entered into the Province of *Luxembourg*, and in four Days more I reached *Brussels*, and so (Thanks be to God) have finished my Journey prosperously; for according to my Wish, from the *Alps* to this Place, I have found no great Inconvenience from the Heat. The Day before Yesterday (which was the *Vigil* of *St. Lorenza*) I made my public Entry, which was splendid enough. All the Court came to meet me on Horseback, about an *Italian* Mile distant from *Brussels*. At this Time the Court is numerous, the Suspension of Arms having brought the chief of the Nobility thither, who would otherwise have been with the Army. The Marquis of *Guadaleste* the *Spanish* Embassador, began the Cavalcade. After him the Dukes *d'Omala*, *d'Ossuna*, and *d'Arescot*; the Marquis *Spinola*, Camp-Marshal General of the Army, Don *Lewis de Velasco*, General of the Horse, and the Count *Bucoy*, General of the Artillery, besides several other Gentlemen of the Country, of the Order of the *Golden Fleece* ;

Fleece ; and several *Spaniards, Italians,* and *Germans*, besides several of other Nations, and a great Number of Colonels and Captains of the said Nations; the Army of *Flanders* being composed of the best Officers in *Europe*. I made my Entry on Horseback, on the right Hand of the *Spanish* Embassador, preceding the rest of the Cavalcade; in this Manner I was conducted to my House. Yesterday in the same Form, with this Difference only, being in my Coach I was attended to a publick Audience of their Serene Highnesses. I first paid my Compliments to the *Infanta*, and then to the Arch-Duke, and met with a most gracious Reception: This was my first setting out as Nuncio. From Matters of Compliment, we now must treat upon those of Business; which are of great Consequence. There is a Suspension of Arms, and this Cessation is for eight Months. By this they shew an Inclination to come to a Treaty, to put an End to a long and calamitous War. It will be a Work of Time and Trouble; and if you consider a forty Years War, with the Consequences of it, you will easily form to yourself how difficult it must be, where there are so many opposite Interests concerned, to adjust Things to the Satisfaction of all Parties. But I am a new Comer, and therefore must hearken to others before I give my Opinion. Notwithstanding my Head has been so full of

the Affairs of *Flanders*, that before I arrived, I seemed to myself to have been an Inhabitant of it. I have had in these Wars four Brothers, and two Nephews; but I find at this Time, only one Brother and one Nephew remaining; so that from my Birth, I have been accustomed to the Affairs of *Flanders*; and on the Increase of Years, the Things of this Place have been so familiar to me, that there remained nothing but my residing here, to become almost a Native. Oh! how I am pleased with *Brussels*, and its Situation. It lies in the Middle of a Plain, at a Foot of a Hill; and where the Ascent begins, I made my publick Entry; a finer Scene could not attract the Eye, the Country around it being most beautiful; for now, in the Midst of *August*, Spring smiles in the Fields. I have stole this Time from my publick Employment, to dedicate it to this Letter, or rather History; so to conclude,

Brussels, August
11, 1607.

I am, Sir, &c.

LETTER

L E T T E R IV.

To Cardinal Spinola, Legate of Ferrara.

THOSE Favours conferred on me, by you Sir, at *Ferrara*, were as Omens to me of a prosperous Journey ; so that with great Success I passed the *Alps* of *Switzerland*, and am safely arrived at my Residence at *Brussels*. The Day before Yesterday I made my publick Entry, and Yesterday had my first Audience of their Serene Highnesses; who received me with the utmost Respect to the Holy See, as might be expected from Princes as conspicuous for Piety, as for the Rank they bear in the World. This Letter will inform you of my Arrival here, and Entrance on my publick Character. I intreat you to receive it with your usual Goodness, and that you will continue to me the same Protection and Favour, that I so fortunately experienced in *Italy*. As to the rest, I hope you are sensible, that my Regard for you is immutable, and that your Commands cannot be more ardently desired, nor executed with greater Pleasure,

Brussels, August
12, 1607.

Than by Sir, &c.

LETTER

L E T T E R V.

To Father Xaviere, General of the Order of St. Dominic, Confessor to his Catholick Majesty, and one of the Counsellors of State at Madrid.

AS I endeavoured at *Rome* to shew all imaginable Respect to you (Reverend Father) when you were elected General of your Order; so I have at all Times desired to continue the same Friendship. I come now to advise you, of the Resolution his Holiness the Pope has taken, to send me his Nuncio into *Flanders*, and likewise of my Arrival at this Court; where the Interests of his Catholick Majesty, and those of their Serene Highnesses are so closely united, that while I serve the Holy See, I am enabled at the same Time to shew my Respect to his Catholick Majesty, and these Serene Princes. I am arrived here when a most important Negotiation is on the Tapis, *viz.* to introduce (if possible) Peace to these Countries, after a long and disagreeable War. Already (Reverend Father) you are informed of all that passes; and because it is possible, something may turn out in Favour of the Catholick Religion in *Holland*, and in the other heretical Provinces, which are almost over-

run-

run with Heresy, I make no doubt but you (Reverend Father) will do all such good Offices on this Occasion with his Majesty, and the present Ministry, as may seem best to your singular Prudence. It may well be imagined, that the King in supporting this Cause, from whence he derives his most glorious Title of Catholick King, is not less desirous that his Zeal should appear, than the Greatness of his Power. To conclude (Reverend Father)

Brussels, August
20, 1607.

I am, &c.

L E T T E R VI.

To Cardinal Xaviere, at Madrid.

THE Regard his Catholick Majesty has for you, could not be more conspicuous, than in procuring for you, Sir, the Dignity of a Cardinal, nor are your Virtues less, in meriting that Honour, amidst the publick Applause, which is the Consequence of Success. I come now to present you with my private Compliments of Congratulation, being extremely rejoiced, that you are arrived at that high Dignity in the Church.

I pray God, that your pious Endeavours may increase your Happiness here, as well as hereafter.

Brussels, January
4, 1608.

I am Sir, &c.

L E T T E R VII.

To Count Hanibal Manfredi, at Rome.

YOUR Silence has been rather a Pleasure, as I have at last received so many Favours with your Letter, as are a sufficient Proof that Absence has not lessened your Regard; then, how little necessary is the external Flourishes of the Pen? I, though silent, have not been behind Hand with you in Friendship; and shall for the future, with particular Pleasure, keep up this Correspondence, to which I am so obligingly invited by you. I had all imaginable Satisfaction at your being appointed Embassador to *Ferrara*. They could not have found one of greater Abilities, and consequently adapted to transact the Negotiations of that City, nor whose Inclinations are more favourable to the Interests of my Family in particular; so that I enjoyed this Promotion of yours, greatly upon

upon my own Account ; command my Services here without Ceremony. Believe me,

Brussels, August
13, 1611.

I am Sir, &c.

L E T T E R VIII.

To Mr. Anthony Querengo, at Rome.

TO confess the Truth, receiving a Letter from you, Sir, appears to me a Dream; but though it is under your Hand, it is rather a Letter from *Livio* our Friend, who explains to me the Request of the Cardinal concerning some Horses. In Spight of you Sir, and your little Regard for me, I will suppose this is your Letter; and at all Hazards the Deceit must take Place, that you have wrote it, without designing it, and that I have received it when least expected. Cruel *Querengo!* after an obstinate Silence of four Years, and every Thought of me being erased from your Memory, at last you write me a Letter, the Hand yours, but the Sentiments are another Person's. Is it not reasonable that I should resent such Treatment? ungrateful, fickle Friend! Friend in Reality to yourself only, in Name to others. But no more Revenge, Love takes Place, my
Friend-

Friendship is immutable, it has been tried by Distance, and refined by long Experience; so cannot help loving you as well as ever, and being as partial to your Merits: receiving a Letter from you has been most agreeable to me, as it gives me an Opportunity to repeat to you (which I sincerely do) my Desire to serve you, my Memory still retaining, how delightfully I spent my Time at *Padua* and *Rome*, which I think of with infinite Pleasure. The seeing me at *Rome* is uncertain, nor at this Distance can I pretend to form a Judgment of your Affection. O! how many Things shall we say to each other? With how much Pleasure shall we view the Dawn of that Day? In the mean Time, (thank God) I have acquired a better State of Health in *Flanders* than I enjoyed in *Italy*. This Change of Air, Wine, Diet, or Method of Life, perhaps altogether, have given Birth to this Alteration; this damp Air is, I believe, better adapted to my Constitution. The Reception I meet with here, is greatly to my Satisfaction; and to conclude,

Brussels, August
20, 1611.

I am, &c.

LETTER

L E T T E R IX.

To the same, at Modena.

SO many Things at one Time, in Prose and Verse, in Print and Manuscript! Your fertile Muse has at length taken a Flight into *Flanders* to sing my Praises, in this pleasant Climate; Dreams they appear to me. I have your Letter in my Hand, read your Verses, and have the Sound of the Muse's Voice in my Ears, which flatters me. Oh! the agreeable Letter! the sublime Verses! and pleasing Sonnet! which I received at *Cambray*, where I now am on a Visit; so great has been my Satisfaction on this Occasion, that I am no longer disgusted with past Silence, with which you have so cruelly tormented me. I am extremely happy with your Resolution of publishing your Works; which will without doubt soon spread themselves over *Italy*. As I mentioned before, I am come to *Cambray*, this being the only remaining Bishoprick for me to visit, of all the Catholick Provinces, which I have gone through in five Journeys. I have seen *Ghent*, and the famous *Antwerp*, with the other most principal Cities of these Countries, have seen the Places, where have
been

been fought the most famous Battles ; and perhaps (I shudder at the Thoughts of it) have trampled on the Bones of *Alexander* my Brother, and *Cornelius* my Nephew, upon that fatal Plain, which served as a Theatre for that remarkable Battle at *Newport*, amidst those Shoals of Sand which the Ocean produces in that low Situation, in Opposition to itself; when I passed through that Country, the Governor of *Newport* was with me, a Soldier of Distinction, who was on the Spot at the Time of Action, and gave me an accurate Relation of the Success of it. Here, said he, were encamped the Catholicks, and there the Hereticks. In this Manner our Forces moved, and thus the Enemy. On this Spot the two Armies engaged ; and here followed the greatest Slaughter ; here Count *Maurice* ordered all the *Dutch* Ships from the Shore, to put the Soldiers under a Necessity to conquer or die ; here with great Valour the Arch-Duke engaged ; here he was wounded, and was in great Danger of being taken Prisoner ; here at length his Army was routed, but with great Loss to the Enemy. By this so clear an Account, I could fancy I had been in the Battle. You may believe Opportunity rather than Inclination was wanting, or I should have seen *Holland* in Person ; but however, I have in a Manner seen it, and have penetrated into the most hidden Mysteries of this new Republick of the

the United Provinces by Means of the most exact Information, which from several Parts I have endeavoured to procure; lately I sent to *Rome* a full and exact Account of various Transactions in three Books, and those divided into Chapters. I have endeavoured particularly to describe in the second Book, with as much Brevity as I could, all the Success of the late War; and for my Example in this Undertaking, I proposed to myself *Florus's* Abridgement of the History of *Rome*, at least to imitate the Spirit and Vivacity of that Author, as far as my weak Pen would permit. How often have I wished I could communicate these my Labours to you, to have them improved and corrected by your Judgment, that I might have less Reason to fear the rigorous Censures of others; but at this Time, it is impossible: Perhaps some Time hence I may have that Satisfaction. No more in this Letter, my ecclesiastical Duties commanding me elsewhere. To-morrow I set out for *Douai* and *St. Omers*, to visit two Seminaries of *English*. *St. Omers* is not above four Hours Journey from *Calais*, which is to say, in Sight of the *British* Channel. From hence I shall return to *Cambray*, and from that Place to my usual Residence at *Brussels*.

Cambray, September
28, 1611.

I am Sir, &c.

L E T T E R X.

To the same, at Modena.

I Could not avoid attending my Business, after my Return from *Cambray* to *Brussels*, so I was obliged to defer my Answer to your Letter for some Days, which with your Works in Print and Manuscript, I received. They arrived when I was on my Journey from *Douai* to *St. Omers*, where I read them so often over, that I almost deceived myself with the Notion that I enjoyed the agreeable Conversation of the Author. How comes it that your Genius is so fertile in so declining an Age ! I confess the first Part of your Works appeared most copious to me, and I did not expect the second should be less so ; and now congratulate you on your Muse's Arrival to Perfection, and being celebrated for giving the World such excellent Compositions. But let us lay Poetry aside, where shall this Letter find you Sir, at *Modena* ? or *Rome* ? But I rather fancy the latter; enjoying and passing an agreeable mild Winter amidst your Friends. I congratulate you upon it, but not without some little Spark of Envy, (though I am almost a *Flanderkin*) my Thoughts are here (and to quote your Works) it is sufficient for me, at a Distance,

tance, to honour and respect the sacred Paradise of *Rome*.

Brussels, October
22, 1611.

I am Sir, &c.

L E T T E R XI.

To the same, at Rome.

IT came into my Head, Sir, you would not go any more this Winter to *Rome*, and now it is confirmed to me, that those white Tops of the *Appennines* in this first Fall of Snow, have frozen up your Inclination for travelling. How you have made me laugh with that *Millennium* which is expected to make the Cardinal return to *Rome*. We have no Intelligence here, that oftener varies than this, that you go and don't go; but in the End you will go, for the Motives to Glory are too powerful (which you extol in your Sonnet) in calling back the Cardinal once more, to undertake the Affairs of the Court of *Rome*; in the mean Time your Works will dissipate the Chagrine which is occasioned by this fresh Interruption to our Meeting; tedious the Time, many the Mountains, Plains and Years, which have divided

us; if our Thoughts had not Wings, and our Pens a Language, to help us to converse at this Distance, what would it be? To all which I may add the Pleasure your agreeable Works have given me. The Stile appears to me to be *Casas*, so copious is the Language, and so weighty the Sense; though 'tis so long since I conversed with the Poet, or these sublime and delicate Productions, that I am not capable of drawing Comparisons; here it is always necessary for me to attend public Affairs. *Flanders* from its Situation, which is in the Heart of *Germany*, *France*, *England* and *Holland*, with the other United Provinces, furnishes me with a large Field of Business. In my Time a Suspension of Arms has been concluded, after a troublesome Treaty of two Years. *France* was irritated at the Flight of the Prince of *Conde*, who was received here under the Protection of the King of *Spain*, and these Princes. *Germany* has been twice disturbed with the Disagreement between two Brothers of this Arch-Duke. With the King of *England* they found it necessary to keep up a perpetual War by the Pen and the Sword, but Quiet though restored, has never been so serene, but at Times some Clouds of Suspicion have intervened to render it overcast. And at this Time there are weighty Affairs on the Anvil, which makes it requisite to dedicate the whole Mind to the Publick Service; however, Quiet reigns here
at

at present, which will still be more so to me, having finished my most important ecclesiastical Duties. Nor can I tell which gives me most Satisfaction in this Treaty, the fortunate Beginning or happy Conclusion. This is sufficient concerning the Things abovementioned. We have here in *Brussels*, the two Princesses, Mother and Wife of the Prince of *Conde*, in their Way from *Holland* to *Paris*: To my thinking, the youngest is handsomer than ever, and more disposed to set the World on Fire. But too dangerous were her last Efforts, and we in *Flanders* near being destroyed by it. I wish this Account which relates to me, may afford you as much Pleasure as yours did to

Brussels, December
3, 1611.

Sir, &c.

L E T T E R XII.

To Mr. Paul Gualdo, at Padua.

IT is really Time after an Age of Silence that the Day should dawn, which should renew me to your Memory. But how many Things were necessary to bring it to pass that

Monsieur *Ottemberge* should be made Bishop of *Arras*, should come to *Flanders*, pass through *Padua*, be at your House, Sir, and force a Letter to me, rather from your Hands than Inclinations. Tell me the Truth Mr. *Gualdo*. Those who are at a Distance, remain as half buried in the Memory and Affections of their Friends ; but I thought yours to me of such a Nature, that nothing (not even the frozen Sea of this northern Country) could have had Power enough to have abated its Fervor. But to return to your Letter, which whether freely given, or obtained by Persuasion, was extremely dear to me, two Days ago it was sent me by the Bishop of *Arras*. To hear of the University, of our Friends there, but particularly of your Health, has given me great Pleasure; but how came you to omit mentioning the good old *Pigna*? Perhaps, he has forgot me, I always retain a grateful Remembrance of *Padua*, not of Walls, or the inanimate Things, but the living Part of that City, which continually represents to me the past Pleasures of former Years, spent there in the Conversation of my Friends. It suffices that you, Sir, design to be a better Correspondent for the future. If you desire it, I will answer you, and urge you to write to me; in the mean Time I shall always preserve my former Regard for you, and that Esteem which I ever had for your
 Vir-

Virtues ; and to conclude, I wish you every
real Good.

Brussels, January
22, 1612.

I am Sir, &c.

L E T T E R XIII.

*To the Marquis Spinola, Knight of the Golden
Fleece, Councillor of State to his Catholick
Majesty, Field Marshal and General of his
Army in Flanders, at Madrid.*

YOUR Excellency by Birth, and Emi-
nence of Merit, brought with you into
Spain the Title of Grandee, even before his
Majesty conferred it on you ; so that it is no
Wonder, if all the World agree to approve
your Success ; and it really may be doubted,
which Country has the greatest Honour,
Italy which gave your Excellency to *Spain*,
Spain which promoted you to such high Dig-
nities, or *Flanders* which furnished you with
the Means of obtaining them. I can assure
your Excellency that the Joy of this Court
could not be greater than on this Occasion,
and my own cannot be expressed. I en-
treat your Excellency to accept of this weak

Testimony of it; and as we may soon expect you here amongst us, I hope I shall in Person make up for the Defects of this Letter. In the mean Time I pray to God, that he will grant your Excellency a happy Return, with every other desirable Felicity.

Brussels, April
10, 1612.

I am, &c.

L E T T E R XIV.

To the Abbot Felitiano, Secretrary to his Holiness, at Rome.

AS you wrote to me Sir, it was certainly my Interest, that the Office of Secretary to the Pope should fall into your Hands, after the Death of Cardinal *Lanfranco*, of happy Memory. But I must prefer to all other Considerations your Virtues, which have now so ample a Field for displaying themselves; for this your Advancement I rejoice with all my Heart, and am now to give you the strongest Testimony of it that I can by this Letter, and am ashamed of having been prevented congratulating you before I had received yours. I make no doubt from the Regard you have hitherto shewn
me,

me, that I may promise myself all future Marks of your Favour; in Return Sir, you will find my Esteem and Desire of serving you unalterable.

Brussels, May
12, 1612.

I am, &c.

L E T T E R XV.

*To Lady Sciaffencurt, principal Lady of the
Bedchamber to the serene Infanta.*

I Make your Afflictions my own, for you cannot be more sensibly affected by them than I am; therefore you will easily believe that my Grief has sympathiz'd with yours, for the Death of Madam *Vincenta*, now in Paradise; but since God has called her to eternal Repose, as her exemplary Life promised us, we ought to console ourselves for our Loss, and not envy her that Felicity, which it is proper we should aspire to, in order to render ourselves happy. I would however comply with the Duty that Custom imposes on such an Occasion, in condoling with you, Madam, on this Event;
which

which I do at the same Time with a Mixture
of Joy for her Release.

Brussels, May
29, 1612.

I am respectfully, &c.

L E T T E R XVI.

To the Chevalier Tedeschi, at Verona.

IN fine, what cannot an obstinate Importunity effect? Here is a long Letter from me in spite of my Employments, and notwithstanding I am forced to exchange our heroic Exploits of *Flanders* for your trifling Gazettes of *Verona*. Let us then talk of serious Matters, and first to answer you concerning the Army of *Italy*. We here hope that Things in these Parts will take a good turn, and that at length this War, which has always been mixed with Negotiations of Peace, will be converted into a real one; that at least is my Opinion, and if I don't tell you the Truth, I do at least my Wish; I would have Peace in *Italy*, that our Army in *Flanders* may be more at liberty, to make a greater Progress in Favour of the Catholick Cause. But of this Army, and the Progress it has made, which you amongst yourselves talk so much of, what

what do you think of it? perhaps that *Spain* and these Princes are inclined to rekindle the War? No, really, and believe me, the Character I bear, and the Confidence reposed in me, have furnished me with Opportunities of feeling the Pulses of Things, and knowing the Crisis of these great Affairs. The Insolence of the Hereticks is become intolerable, since the late Proceedings at *Aix-le-Chapelle*, *Mulheim* and *Guliers*; besides other Undertakings not so manifest, though not less rash, Necessity has given Motion to this Army, and the Goodness of the Cause has made it succeed happily hitherto: We have re-established the Catholick Government in *Aix-la-Chapelle*, have destroyed the Fortifications of *Mulheim*, and at the same Time entered into several Parts of the Duchy of *Guliers*; from thence they passed the *Rhine*, and after some Days Resistance took *Wejel*, a large Tract of Land, and a Place of Importance on that River, and a Nest of Hereticks, the University where they teach their Doctrine; in a Word, the *Geneva* of the *Rhine*, because the Tenets of *Calvin* reign there, the Inhabitants being chiefly *Calvinists*. This is the State of Things at present, nor is there any Design here of disturbing them, but to introduce Quiet, which may be both lasting and honourable. In the mean Time, the Hereticks are under great Surprize, and what has heightened their Fears, is, the having seen at this Court, up-
on

on the setting out of the Army, the Embassadors belonging to the ecclesiastical Electors of *Germany*, which is to say, almost all the Catholick League. The *Spanish* Embassador and myself going with the Army to *Aix-la Chapelle*, on the present Expedition, alarmed them greatly, and the Panic continues still, and makes them apprehend it is a Confederacy of all the Catholick Powers, united in Appearance, in Favour of *Neuburg*, but in reality for the utter Destruction of all the heretical Faction. The Truth is, that on our Part we were willing to support *Neuburg* after he had declared himself a Catholick, and to suppress the Confidence of the Hereticks, who had already in Idea devoured the Empire, and got into their Hands the ecclesiastical States bordering upon the *Rhine*, particularly those belonging to the Electors. How great a Part the Authority of his Holiness has had in this Work, is known to the rest of his Ministers as well as myself; though I acknowledge myself the least capable, yet not the least fortunate, and I have been obliged in this Conjunction, to treat of Matters of the utmost Consequence, and to have a Hand in various Undertakings, some relating to War, and some to Peace; but not disagreeing in Effect, because it is pretended the Army is to establish a profound Tranquility, which I hope (through the divine Favour) will be the Case. I say I ought not

not to esteem myself less lucky, when I consider, that besides the Treaty of Peace, I have seen this Army formed, and taking the Field, marching in Order of Battle, and that upon their Swords and Pikes, and in the Mouths of their Cannons, they carried the Execution of the imperial Mandate against the Hereticks of *Aix-la-Chapelle*; but no more, for already this Letter is of too great a Length, and I have been too tedious in relating the Successes of this our military Shore of *Flanders*. I will then reassume my Character of Nuncio, and leave to you that of Gazetteer. I wish you every real Content,

Brussels, September
10, 1614.

And am, &c.

L E T T E R XVII.

To the Marquis Spinola, at Wesel.

YOUR Excellency has shewed your great Valour by the Conquest of *Wesel*, which has given the Catholick League fresh Obligations to you. I congratulate your Excellency upon this your late important Success in the best Manner I am capable, as
one

one particularly interested in your Glory, and obliged for many Reasons to wish Prosperity to that Army, which is to defend so good a Cause. May it please the Almighty every Day to second your Endeavours, that your Excellency, who with such Expedition formed and conducted the Army against the Enemy, may still be the Instrument by which the Catholick Religion in these Parts, may receive fresh Vigour, as much as in Reason she ought against the Impiety of the Hereticks. I immediately transmitted to his Holiness an Account of those Particulars, to which I myself was Witness, during the Time, that I had the Honour to serve as a Soldier under your Excellency, at *Aix-la-Chapelle*. I shall now send to his Holiness, the Advices I receive from others, concerning the happy Progress of your Arms, but particularly that which made publick Fame resound with your Praises. To conclude,

Brussels, September
12, 1614.

I am, &c.

LETTER

L E T T E R XVIII.

To Cardinal D' Este, at Modena.

THAT you might, Sir, safely arrive in *Spain*, and be speedily dispatched from thence again, to return into *Italy*, no Body more fervently wished than I did, or does more sincerely rejoice to find so happily effected. I congratulate you with all the Affection I am capable of, for this your Success; but above all, that your singular Merit has been so amply displayed at that Court; that besides the particular Accounts I have had of it from my Lord of *Capua*, in our usual Correspondence, Reports thereof have flown upon the Wings of publick Fame, that you, Sir, cannot desire more noble Marks of it; may it please Providence to crown your present Prosperity, with the Succession of a thousand fortunate Events, long to preserve to your serene House that Ornament bestowed on it in your illustrious Person.

Brussels, November
1, 1614.

I am, &c.

L E T T E R

L E T T E R XIX.

*To the Lady Frances Clarus, Embassadress
from Spain, at Prague.*

LONG before this, I knew that one of the Things most desired by his Holiness the Pope, was to have Don *Baldassare D' Zunica* in *Rome*, Embassador from his Catholick Majesty, so that I make no doubt, but that his Holiness's Satisfaction, will be great as his Desires were for this Event. Amidst the publick Consequences which have rendered this Election so full of Applause, my private Considerations should not take Place, but it is natural for me upon my own Account, being always favoured by your Excellency, in the most obliging Manner; and not less by Don *Baldassare*, though at a Distance. I congratulate your Excellency with all my Soul, and take it for granted, you will be so well pleased with your Residence at *Rome*, that you will not regret leaving *Prague*. In the mean Time, I shall be the Forerunner of your Excellencies Arrival, being to quit this Court very soon, and shall endeavour to give that Account of your Merits which I ought, though I am afraid so imperfectly, that they will be rather glanced
at

at, than expressed. To conclude with great Respect, I wish you all desirable Happiness, &c.

Brussels, September
26, 1615.

L E T T E R XX.

To the Lady Catherine Livia, Countess of
Firstemberg, at Brussels.

THAT I should not speak ill of *Germany*, why not? Bad Roads, and Leagues without End, continually ascending and descending, passing a thousand Rivers, amidst a thousand Dangers, with Snow up to one's Knees, a Wind that fleas the Skin off, and yet I must not speak ill of *Germany*? Imposing Inns, dirty Landladies, stinking Stoves, Wine drawn from the *Lees*, Food full of Spice, and yet I must not speak ill of *Germany*? Sometimes lodged amongst *Calvinists*, sometimes amongst *Lutherans*, not to be able to say Mass, or hear it upon the greatest Festival; travel a thousand Days without seeing a Town of Note, yet shall I not have the Liberty to speak ill of *Germany*? Nevertheless, do not too easily credit all I

D

write

write to you, for I have not stuck to Facts in any Thing I have related. I could not help giving you this ridiculous Account, for methinks, at that Instant of Time, I seemed to be jesting amidst our usual Conversations at *Brussels*, and to personate the Courtier, instead of the Traveller, which suited me best. I unsay it all then : I found passable Roads, tolerable Leagues, happily passed the *Rhine* and the *Danube*, commodious Inns, lovely Hostesses, who, according to the Custom of their Country, would join Company with me at Table, Stoves giving an agreeable Warmth, *Rhenish* and *Necker* Wines with a good Flavour, *Lutherans* and *Calvinists*, both equally good Livers, as to Eating and Drinking. These are the Inconveniences, that to this Time I have suffered in *Germany*, which I must bear with, till my Arrival in *Italy*; since from henceforward, all the Country which I am to pass, will be Catholics. I now find myself at *Ausburg*, and hitherto (God be thanked) have performed my Journey prosperously. I passed the *Rhine* at *Spire*, a City more renowned than beautiful. I passed the *Danube* at *Ulm*, indeed a delightful City, which greatly pleased me. But *Ausburg* has something in it very superb, in the Buildings, Streets and Inhabitants, and I believe *Germany* has not a finer Town than this; here I shall rest To-Morrow, and then pursue my Journey towards
Inspruck,

Inspruck, praying God to send you all Happiness.

Ausburg, January
11, 1616.

L E T T E R XXI.

To Cardinal Ubaldini, at Paris.

ALREADY Sir, you must be sensible of the Joy I felt in my Heart, when I heard of your Promotion to the Cardinal's Hat, the Affections I shewed in my private Occurrences at *Rome*, and afterwards in Publick, during the long Stay you have made in *France*, and in *Flanders*, may fully testify, without the Expressions of this Letter, the particular Pleasure I take in this your new Dignity. Glory has been returned you with Interest, your late Promotion being deferred till this Time. How many Accidents have since happened in *France*? how great have been the Disturbances, and how successful have you been, Sir, in the publick Service, and with how much Applause have you acquired that Honour, which you before merited from your consummate Worth? I had an Account of your Promotion on the Instant of

my Departure from *Flanders*, which was the Middle of last Month; and if it mortified me at first, not returning into *Italy* by *France*, it much more chagrined me afterwards, that it was not permitted me personally, Sir, to pay my Devoirs to you. I brought my Credentials from his Holiness the Pope, to the King of *France*, also Letters from Cardinal *Borghese*; but the Necessity of my setting out made me resolve to turn towards *Germany*. I determined to travel in my Coach, to shun in this inclement Season, the *Alps* of *Switzerland*, and that immense Ladder of *St. Gothard*. Till this Time I have not had Conveniences to write, so that I take this Opportunity which offers to me at *Ausburg*, to congratulate you most affectionately on your being created a Cardinal, not doubting but your Virtues will appear as conspicuous on the Theatre of *Rome*, as they have done in so many Occurrences in the Affairs of *France*. Now to return to myself, To-morrow I set out from *Ausburg*, and from thence proceed to *Ferrara* to see my Friends, and those belonging to me. Afterwards, with all possible Expedition shall go to *Rome*, to pay my Respects to my Patrons, and take a View of the Court. I say take a View of it; because, in so many Years of Absence, so many Changes must have happened, that the *Rome* I shall find, will not seem the *Rome* I left; there I hope soon to have the Opportunity of seeing
and

and serving you, and of enjoining your usual Favour: Hitherto I have had a more agreeable Journey, than I expected; little Ice and less Snow, and to this Time no great Occasion for Stoves; the least Part remains. God grant it may not be the most difficult. I wish you Sir, all Felicity.

Ausburg, January
18, 1616.

L E T T E R XXII.

To the Bishop of Feltre.

THOUGH I did not design to take my Pen, it would naturally come in my Way; because I have Occasion to complain of your cruel Silence? Shall I write to you, but receive no Answer; what is become of your former Regard for me, and that Intercourse of Friendship we used to have? From *Brussels* I lately wrote you two Letters, communicating to you my Request of being recalled, which I have obtained, and already I am at *Trent*, which is to say, almost at the Gates of *Feltre*. To-morrow I embark upon the *Adige*, and hope in a Day and a Half that rapid River will convey me to *Verona*.

How much am I concerned to find, that our Friend *Tedeschi's* Confinement is not at an End, that we cannot enjoy his Company. What strange Events this World produces every Day, either in ourselves or Friends. Cardinal *Madruzzi* I have not met with, he being at *Riva*. If I was at Liberty, and the Season better, not all the Chains in your Arsenal of *Venice* should keep me from *Feltre*. Imagine this Letter the lively Image of myself, I sincerely embrace you, and beg to have some Account of you after so long a Separation, and since we cannot converse personally, attend me at least with your Inclinations, and in Return I shall be wholly yours. I conclude this, with all the Respect due to your Character, and which I, more than any Body, owe to you. To sum up all, I wish you happy, and remain,

Trent, January
21, 1616.

Sir, &c.

LETTER

L E T T E R XXIII.

To Mr. Querengo, at Rome.

I Am now at the Gates of *Italy*, for To-day I am arrived at *Trent*, having hitherto, thank God, happily performed my Journey. I received your Letter at *Brussels*, delivered to me by the Secretary of his Excellency Mr. *Bari*, my Successor, which I had upon the Instant of my Departure : But amidst the Multiplicity of Affairs, though I frequently designed to take my Pen, I was always interrupted. I answer it now with a *Flemish* Hand, not being yet quite in *Italy* ; your Impatience to see me, is due to the Regard I have for you, and the Desire I have for an Interview, that I may have the Pleasure and Improvement of your Conversation. Now to speak of my Works. I confess I am in a particular Manner ambitious of your Approbation, that I may merit it from others. But to return to my Journey, which could not have been more successful, having scarce seen the hoary Family of *Winter* ; so inconsiderable have been the Ice, Snow, Rain, and Wind, a Winter in Idea only ; but I have a Chilness over my Heart at leaving *Flanders*, that is to say, those excellent Princes, and Ministers, worthy of so great Esteem, that

Country, to which I had been accustomed for many Years, and an infinite Number of Friends who shewed the utmost Tenderneſs at my Departure, which equally affected me. To-Morrow (God willing) I ſhall travel towards *Verona*. I performed my Journey through *Germany* in my Coach; and am arrived at that Part which divides *Lorain* from *Switzerland*, joining to *Italy*. By the Way of *Luxembourg* I came from *Flanders*, paſſed through the Cities of *Spire*, *Ulm*, *Auſburg* and *Inſpruck*, till at laſt I am arrived at *Trent*. But no more now, the reſt by Word of Mouth. Already I view *Rome* with deſiring Eyes, and embrace you, Sir, with all my Soul, and to conclude, I wiſh you the trueſt Content.

Trent, January
23, 1616.

L E T T E R XXIV.

To Cardinal Medici, at Florence.

YOUR Excellency was formed for Greatneſs, and the Dignity of a Cardinal, will, from you, receive more Luſtre than

than it can possibly bestow, so that it was no Wonder if your Promotion was attended with uncommon Applause. I that always professed myself so devoted to your serene House, come now with humble Affection, to congratulate your being placed in so eminent a Rank, beseeching God that it may be as happy to you as beneficial to the Church, and College. At the same Time, I advise you, Sir, of my Return from *Flanders* to *Italy*, and beg your Excuse, that from the Hurry and Fatigue of my Journey, I was prevented paying this my Duty sooner.

Ferrara, February
8, 1616.

I am, &c.

L E T T E R XXV.

To Cardinal Gonzaga, at Mantua.

IN *Flanders*, with singular Pleasure I paid my Respects to you, Sir, when with the serene Duke your Father, of glorious Memory, you passed through those Countries when you was designed rather for the military, than ecclesiastical Profession; your Promotion to a Cardinal's Hat is to the great Satisfaction of his Holiness, and Honour to
the

the sacred College. Permit me to congratulate you upon it, and to assure you, my private Joy unites with the Publick, and that no Body sees with greater Pleasure, this Union of high Rank, with illustrious Blood. I entreat you to excuse my not paying my Respects sooner ; but I was not informed of this Event till I arrived at *Ferrara*, in my Way to *Rome*, from *Flanders*. I pray God to grant you every other Grandeur and Happiness, and humbly remain.

Ferrara, February
8, 1616.

L E T T E R XXVI.

To Father Francis Riviero, of the Order of St. Dominick, Spanish Preacher to his Catholick Majesty, and to their serene Highnesses of Flanders.

TO-day I am arrived at *Rome*, and was desirous of giving you immediate Advice of it. Thanks be to God, I am in perfect Health, after a long Journey, and a severe Season for travelling ; nevertheless, I still seem to be shut up amongst the Stoves of *Germany* ; and can fancy my Coach still dancing

dancing amidst the *Alps* of the *Tirole*; tho' the Weather and Journey have been more favourable than I expected, as I have remarked to you in my former Letters. Tomorrow I hope to kiss his Holiness's Feet, and to pay my Respects to his Eminency Cardinal *Borghese*. When I have more Leisure, I shall pay my Compliments to the rest of the Court, which I find very much changed, though it is too early to form any Judgment of it, being newly arrived. Receive then, reverend Father, this first Token of my Respect. Does it not appear to you, as owing to the Subtlety of Love, that I have stolen this Time, from a thousand other Occupations to dedicate to you. I here expected to find Letters from you, but either my Calculation of Time, or my Impatience has deceived me. Pray make my humble Respects to the Father Confessor of the serene Arch-Duke. I wish you Sir, every desirable Good.

Rome, March

26, 1616.

LETTER

L E T T E R XXVII.

To the same, at Bruffels.

I Received your Letter, and though later than I expected, yet not with less Pleasure. I am extreamly rejoiced the new Nuncio has made so good a Beginning, and I hope his Successes will increase. Indeed, I have Reason to believe they will retain some small Remembrance of me, having so long resided in that Country, being more a *Flanderkin* than an *Italian*; the Chevalier *Masso* came to see me, immediately upon my Arrival here. Imagine to yourself whether we did not talk of *Flanders*, and whether this Meeting did not recall to my Memory many Objects there; but for this Time let us quit them. I was received very graciously by his Holiness and his Eminency Cardinal *Borghese*, nor can I express the Satisfaction they both shewed for my past Services, which makes me hope, I am not to be left in a State of Inaction, should a new Occasion offer of employing me. Already two Things are talked of; that of Nuncio in *France*, which must soon be filled up, the other to *Germany*, that being looked upon as vacant, the present Nuncio having frequently desired to be recalled. The Designs of the sacred College are difficult
to

to penetrate, but those of the Court (who sometimes chuse before the Prince) have, I find, pitched upon me for one of these Employments. In *Germany*, the Cold, the Stoves, and Method of Diet, give me more Fears than the Negotiations; on the contrary, in *France*, the Perplexity of publick Affairs will be my greatest Difficulty. During the many Years I have lived in *Flanders*, I have observed nothing upon that neighbouring Shore but Storms, Shipwrecks, and Disturbances, which continually agitate the *French* Ocean; besides which, that King is a Minor, or scarce out of his Minority, and consequently the Government wavering, or in manifest Danger of it; therefore, I have Reason to fear, embarking upon a Sea, which from its natural Disposition, when most calm, is liable to be ruffled by every fresh Gale of Wind. The Nunciature of *Spain* we have little Reason to hope for, as they will not (in all Probability) change their Minister for some Time; but rather than be idle, any Employment would be agreeable, much more either of the abovementioned, which are as honourable, as any in the Gift of the holy See. In the mean Time, the Method of living at *Rome*, is highly disagreeable to me; so different is it from the Liberty I enjoyed in *Flanders*: Here frequent Visits, with perpetual Attendance on Court, allow no Leisure for Sleep, or necessary Refreshment but what is caught by Stealth.

Stealth. The Wine is sweet, and rather luscious, than pleasant ; the Air is gross and heavy ; the Hours of Conversation are few ; it is in short, a Servitude without Intermiſſion, and quite a different Life to what I have been uſed to. But what is yet worſe, not to enjoy thoſe cooler Summers of *Flanders*, with the agreeable Outlets about *Bruffels*. But no more now, only my uſual Reſpects to our Father Confeſſor. And to conclude, I wiſh you, venerable Father, every real Good, &c.

Rome, April
18, 1616.

L E T T E R XXVIII.

To the ſame, at Bruffels.

I Write this to you, venerable Father, in a State of Recovery, rather than perfect Health. By other Letters from my Secretary, you muſt have had an Account of my Indispoſition : Now I am to inform you, that I have recovered ſome Degree of Health, though ſtill very weak. I was always afraid of the Air, and Manner of Life ; the Heats were no ſooner began, than I found in myſelf a great Alteration, my Blood being greatly inflamed ;
it

it ended in a Fever. Oh! what severe Thirst have I suffered, and restless Nights; but provided I do not relapse, I shall willingly forget my past Complaints. How much have I wished during my Illness, to have enjoyed the Pleasure of your Conversation, and frequently the Sound of your harmonious Sermons, have seemingly echoed in my Ears; too short, methinks they were, when at the longest, and full of Sweetness, even when they darted Sentences full of Terror. In my sleepless Nights I frequently called to Mind, our Journies from *Antwerp*, *Cambray*, &c. particularly that military Expedition with the Army, when we so severely chastised the Hereticks of *Aix-le-Chapelle*, together with our other agreeable, and more domestick Recreations at *Brussels*. But to return to *Rome*, and my present Affairs. I see your Impatience, and sincerely confess mine to you, with Regard to the Court; I should have already been Nuncio beyond the *Alps*, and not upon the Banks of the *Tiber*, but Employments come from the Ministry, and not from the Court, which is often mistaken in its Predictions. From the true Oracle, then, we must seek for the Discovery of this Mystery, concerning the two Employments I mentioned in my last Letter. In the mean Time, happen what will, my Mind is prepared, I wrote to our Father Confessor from *Spire*, but have not had an Answer. Pray enquire
if

if my Letter was delivered to him. I did not address him again, thinking it the same to write to you. I beseech God to preserve you both,

Rome, June
15, 1616.

And am, &c.

L E T T E R XXIX.

To the same, at Brussels.

AT last this Riddle is explained, and I am nominated Nuncio to *France*, and already my Thoughts are out of *Italy*. I am sure that you, Sir, together with the rest of my Friends and Acquaintance in your Country, would rather I was in *Spain*, as it happened to his Eminency, Cardinal *Carafa*, my Predecessor in *Flanders*; but that Nunciature will not be disposed of for some Time: As to the rest, there are in each of these Characters, various Opportunities of serving the Church. It is highly advantageous to have the two Crowns strongly united by this Inter-marriage; I shall carry no Sentiments but those of my Prince, nor can his be any other than as a common Father to all, which to this Time he has demonstrated, having always

ways most ardently wished to see this Union, productive of Happiness to Religion, and Peace to Christianity. His Excellency *Visconti*, a *Milanese* Priest of great Quality, and Expectations, is appointed Nuncio to the Court of *Germany*. I wait the cool Season for my Departure from hence, which cannot be sooner than the Beginning of *September*; already I wish to be out of *Rome*, so much am I in dread of this Air, particularly now in *July*, when the Sun does not burn, but parches one; so that I am ever afraid of some fresh Attack of my Disorder, which may be more dangerous than the first, but let us lay aside bad Omens, when I quit this Place, I shall let you know, and what Sort of Journey I have. I would gladly embark aboard the Gallies of *Civetta Vecchia* for *Marseilles*, to experience a little Sea-Sickness, after dancing upon the Mountains. But fear I shall not be able to get a Passage, and that I must measure the *Alps* of *Savoy*, as I did those of *Switzerland*, and the *Tirole*; but since it will be my Fate to be so near *Flanders*, who knows but some Opportunity may offer of seeing you at *Paris*, or thereabouts. I know that you on your Part, would willingly indulge this Hope; I understand the Duke of *Monteleone* (who conducted the new-married Queen to her Husband in *France*) will remain there, to transact the Affairs of his most Catholick Majesty, with the most

E Christian

Christian King ; every Body tells me, he is a Man remarkably good, polite and brave, indeed the Nature of his Employment, demonstrates his Pre-eminence of Merit, which I rejoice at ; because of the Intercourse we must have in publick Affairs ; nor can I express the Satisfaction I feel, in seeing his Excellency *Ferdinand Buyscor*, newly arrived from his Embassy in *England*, now Embassador from their Highnesses's to the King of *France*. Oh ! how many Things shall we say to each other, but of *Flanders* the most, not a little concerning yourself ; who, though at a Distance, will notwithstanding be present at all our Meetings in Idea. With my humble Respects to the Father Confessor, I remain,

Rome, July,
15, 1616.

Sir, &c.

L E T T E R XXX.

To his Eminency Cardinal Ludovisio, afterwards Pope Gregory XV. at Pavia.

I Was passing through *Bologna* in my Way to my Nunciature in *France*, when the Account came that you, Sir, was created a Cardinal. I personally congratulated the Count your Brother upon it, and deferred my

my Compliments to yourself, till I came to *Ferrara*; but no sooner was I arrived here than I relapsed into the same Indisposition I had at *Rome*. Now that (through the divine Providence) I find myself recovered, I rejoice with you, Sir, in the most respectful Manner, upon seeing you exalted to that Dignity, that was due to you before; for your worthy Performances in *Rome*, and for those you afterwards, so happily executed in *Bologna*, which has demonstrated to the Publick, the Greatness of your Merit, and that you deserved the Reward before you received it. At the same Time, Sir, I am to give you an Account that I am departing from hence to continue my Journey, during which I shall endeavour to have a personal Meeting with you, to have particular Instructions, (agreeable to my Order at *Rome*) concerning the Affairs of *Lombardy*, as you shall judge most proper, for those Duties expected from me for the publick Service, whilst I am in *France*. God grant you Prosperity, is the constant Prayer of,

Ferrara, October
27, 1616.

Sir, &c.

L E T T E R XXXI.

To the Bishop d' Albengi, at Rome.

AT length Impatience has prevailed, and now I confess to you, reverend Sir, why I left *Ferrara*, before I was in a Condition to leave it. But I should never have been cured under the Obscurity of that Sky, and in that Shell of Weeds and Mud. I embarked upon the *Po*, but soon repented of it; seeming rather to go backwards, than forwards; so long and tedious was this Voyage, against Tide, so that I was impatient, till I landed at *Gualtieri*. There, I continued three Days, with the Marquis my Brother, to get a little Rest and Strength, by which I was heartened and pursued my Journey by Land. In two Days I reached *Cremona*, in two more *Pavia*, and in one and a half *Casale of Monferrato*; this I performed in a Litter, belonging to the Duke of *Guastalla*. In that Place, I paid my Compliments to the Duke of *Mantua*, who was arrived there the Day before. After this I went to *Trino*, seven Miles off, stayed there one Day only, in the same House with Cardinal *Lodovisio*, and his Excellency Mr. *Bethune*, Embassador extraordinary from *France*, on the Occasion of the Treaty, which is in their Hands, which they communicated

municated to me. And the Governor of *Milan*, about a Mile from thence, whom I visited, talked to me a great while upon it. Thus, having complied with what was expected from me at this Meeting, I proceeded towards *Turin*, where I arrived in a Day and a half, being just come this Day the 16th. So much for my Journey; as to my Recovery I can now say I am well. I find myself stronger; have recovered my Sleep, Appetite, and Chearfulness of Temper, so there is nothing now wanting, but a little more Flesh, which I hope to gain before I pass the *Alps*; they begin to whiten but are not yet covered with Snow; so that the passing them now is not difficult; indeed, hitherto the Season has been extreamly favourable for Travelling. The Duke is not at *Turin*, his Highness is gone to *Massino*, twenty Miles from this Place, where he is to meet his Eminency Cardinal *Ludoviso*, and his Excellency Mr. *Bethune*; as to the rest, all the Countries, through which I passed, from *Montferrato* to this Capital, are in Arms, though they talk of Peace with great Warmth; but many are the Obstacles. May it please God to restore to *Italy*, its former Quiet, otherwise my Residence in *France*, will be attended with an infinite deal of Trouble in the Beginning. I shall stay here all To-morrow. I am the Guest of the Nuncio, who treats me with singular Regard. In eight or ten

Days, I hope to reach *Lyons* : In the mean Time keep me in your Memory, which I shall exchange with equal Affection. Follow me with your Inclinations into *France*, and mine shall attend you into *Italy*.

Turin, November
16, 1616.

I am, &c.

L E T T E R XXXII.

To his Eminency Cardinal Leni, at Rome.

IT is certain, I have been too negligent in giving an Account of myself to you, Sir, since I left the Court ; but my Indisposition at *Ferrara*, will, I hope, be a sufficient Excuse. I was scarce arrived there, when I relapsed, though my Disorder was rather tedious than dangerous ; I lingered above a Month before I recovered. At length (through the divine Favour) I renewed my Journey, and hitherto, it has been very successful, for I could not have wished for milder Weather, or better Roads ; I passed through the State of *Milan*, and after being quit of the military Bustles of *Lombardy*, came to *Turin*, and ascended the *Alps* with much Pleasure, and already am got to *Lyons*, where I am entertained

tained by the Bishop. I was carried over Mount *Cenis* in a Chair by Men, more resembling wild Goats than human Creatures, they go upon the Rocks as if they were plain Ground; are inured to all Sorts of Weather, which though ever so severe to others, signifies nothing to them. My Regard for you, Sir, and your great Goodness to me, make me hope, this short Relation I have given you of my Health and Journey, will yield you some Pleasure.

Lyons, November
27, 1616.

I am, &c.

L E T T E R XXXIII.

To Mr. Pallavicino, at Rome.

I Was desirous of writing to you on my Journey, and upon my Arrival at *Paris*; but various Interruptions prevented me so long, till at last your obliging Favour came to Hand. That you was affected with a real Concern for my Relapse, I am truly sensible; so much did you seem to love, and esteem me at *Rome*. But already I am in *France*, and (God be thanked) tolerably well, have had as good a Journey as I could desire, and was

very graciously received by their Majesties, and found the Affairs of this Kingdom pretty quiet. But the Disposition of People both within and without the Court, cannot be more agitated; so that it must be a Miracle, if some great Alteration does not happen; they are familiar to *France*, which in twelve hundred Years of Monarchy, has been accustomed to Troubles. Disturbances and Quiet alternately take place in other Nations; but in this, the latter has no Being, or dies as soon as born. Now there will not be Matter wanting to facilitate our Correspondence, between the Affairs of *France* and *Flanders*.

Paris, February
1, 1617.

Yours, &c.

L E T T E R XXXIV.

To Count Hanibal Manfredi, at Rome.

THE Troubles in *France* must before now have excused my Silence to you, Sir. I arrived at *Paris* when these Disturbances were forming. The Tumults increased, and nothing was heard but Arms, and it seemed as if every Thing was to be turned upside down. The military Tragedies which
were

were expected in this Kingdom, were afterwards converted into melancholly Scenes at Court. In the present State of Things there is some Degree of Quiet, which makes me take my Pen to rectify past Omissions. I continued to recover my Health by travelling, as I remarked to you in my former Letters, and *Paris* has confirmed it ; for I have here found my friendly Climate of *Flanders*, there being very little Difference in the Air. In *Paris* I enjoy the same Breezes I did at *Brussels*, and now the *June* of *France*, is like the *April* of *Italy*; as to the rest, the Nation, Court, and their Customs vary greatly. The first Month of my Residence in *Flanders*, gave me as thorough an Insight into their Method of Life, as I could acquire during the nine Years I continued there ; here no two Days bear the least Resemblance; there, Regularity reigns ; here, the reverse ; there they err in being too slow ; here, in being too hasty ; and the Contrast is the same throughout. But all Courts, and all Nations have their Merits, and their Faults ; and whoever is a publick Minister, must conform to the Humours of the Place he is at. *France* is ever productive of Novelty; for in this my first Month, such strange Revolutions have happened as are almost incredible; in an Instant the whole Kindom in an uproar, and all in Factions, under various Pretences; the Principals of these were, *Concini* and Marshal

d'Ancre, another Party were the Dukes *Nevers*, *du Maine*, and *Vendome*, and other Persons of Distinction headed the rest ; also the *Hugonots* who, amidst the Discords of the Catholick Body, always seek to augment their own heretical Factions. But the King was resolved to be King, and the royal Authority has prevailed every where ; and to say the Truth, here, they could no longer support the Pride and Arrogance of the Marshal *d'Ancre*; so that at last, *France* was resolved to have the Blood of this *Victim*, and at all Hazards to make him a Sacrifice. In what Manner it happened, together with the shocking Incidents attending that Execution, the Account must be already spread over *Italy*, though not perhaps so immediately reach *Rome*. I suffered so much in seeing it, that I could not relate it without Horror ! This Catastrophe could not be unexpected at *Rome*, as I have often writ it as my Opinion, that the Oppressions of *d'Ancre*, could not to all Appearance last long ; and that the higher his Ambition raised him, the greater would be his Fall. In this Manner ended the Greatness of *Concini* ; and it is believed his Wife will meet the same Fate : It being supposed, she will soon be executed by Order of the Parliament, in some publick Part of *Paris*, nor is it possible to say how much the Memory of them is abhorred ; the Separation between the King and his Mother, being attributed to them. The Queen Mother,

ther, who, with consummate Prudence knew as well how to lay aside Royalty, as to sustain the Weight of a Kingdom, has judged it proper to retire to *Blois*, there to continue; but it is to be hoped a little Time will reunite their Majesties, and manifest her Virtues. In the mean while, the King has taken the Reigns of Government into his own Hands; the Death of one Person has seemingly satisfied the Anger of a whole Nation, and established throughout Obedience and Quiet; nevertheless, the Seeds of Discord still remain, and it is the Disposition of the People to change; besides which, we must consider the Infirmities which Heresy breeds here, which has made such Divisions; the Heresies of *Calvin* being quite opposite to the Catholick Religion, and the Republick, the Hugonots, seek to form another Extremem, not less contrary to the Monarchy of *France*. We ought for these Reasons, to pray to God, that he will take this Kingdom into his Protection; particularly now, that the King is so young; hitherto, his Majesty shews Judgment and singular Piety, was born to be King, bears the Name of a holy King, and had to his Father a Prince of glorious Memory; which is sufficient to give us Hopes he will copy such great Examples. Considering the present Situation of Affairs; I shall not want for Employment. I have
already

already conformed to the Customs of this Court, and the Method of living at *Paris*, and have received great Honours. The Court is numerous, especially at this Time, that all the Princes and principal People of the Kingdom are assembled about his Majesty; but it is impossible to imagine, how great the Confusion is at present, and so far from desiring to remedy it, that they seem fond of a Grandeur full of Tumult and Noise, they intruding not only in the Audience-Chamber, and in publick View, but on the King himself; and that not the Nobility only, but even those of inferior Rank, is here esteemed an Indication of Grandeur and Pomp of Majesty. I sometimes despair of being heard, as there is scarce Space between my Words and the Ears of the King, so great is the Croud. But *Paris* is worthy of such a Court, and the River *Seine* worthy of such a City, and this Situation, deservedly the Centre of so fine a Kingdom, adorned with a great many large Villages, and a plentiful Country all round, which seems to pay Honours to *Paris*. This City is computed to contain six hundred thousand Souls, so beautiful and fertile a County is well adapted to a City so extensive and populous; but in having continued to write so long, it has deceived my Imagination, seeming to converse with you, Sir, and not to be in this

Rome

Rome of France, but in ours of Italy. To conclude.

*Paris, June
8, 1617.*

I am, &c

L E T T E R XXXV.

To my Lord Marcomonte, Archbishop of Lyons, Envoy from his most Christian Majesty Lewis XIII. to his Holiness Paul V. afterwards created a Cardinal, by Pope Urban VIII. at Rome.

FRANCE could not have given greater Occasion of Joy to *Italy*, than by appointing you Embassador to *Rome*. Now the War is succeeded by a Peace, and the King has plainly demonstrated, that God designs him for glorious Ends; since he has not only given Peace to his own Dominions, but to every other Place where the Christian Religion is acknowledged; for all *Europe* seemed ripe for a War. But I rejoice with you, Sir, for the happy Turn of Affairs, as likewise for the Success of your Negotiations at *Rome*, which have so well corresponded with these at *Paris*. It is certain, the Ministers here furnish me with the Means of being useful in these Affairs;

fairs; so that his Holiness could not desire greater Proofs of Confidence and Respects, than have been paid to him. To you, Sir, in particular, I return my most hearty Thanks, for the obliging Letter, you favoured me with, as likewise for those, which on this Occasion, passed between his Holiness, Cardinal *Borghese* and yourself, in my Favour. I here join with the rest of Mankind, in applauding your Conduct, and imagine, that although you exceed me in the genteel Manner of doing civil Things, nevertheless, my Inclinations keep pace with yours, in every Act of Kindness.

*Paris, September
6, 1617.*

I am Sir, &c.

L E T T E R XXXVI.

To Mr. Pallavicino, at Rome.

I Am indebted to you, Sir, for a Letter, and shall execute nothing with greater Pleasure, than discharging this Obligation. I received yours at a Time when we were adjusting the Affairs of *Italy*; and hitherto I have been so much employed, that I could not answer you sooner: Your Epistle was dear

dear to me, nor can I express with how much Satisfaction I always receive them. We have, as above remarked, concluded the Affairs of *Italy*; (and I am sensible, that you, Sir, will have had great Pleasure in those particular Honours which were attributed to my Labours.) In *Spain* they were ratified by a solemn Treaty, and of Consequence better fixed, and established. In *Italy* the Success has been rather fluctuating; nevertheless, we hope that this Negociation will at last be in Port, and that please God, we shall remain for some Time (at least) firm, and secure on the Anchor of Peace: But what do you say amongst yourselves of this our great Assembly at *Roan*? What do you think? In my Judgment you can have but an indifferent Opinion of it; so fruitful of Humours, and aguish Disorders, (if I may so express myself) is that Part of the Kingdom, doubtless not less visible to you, though at a Distance, than they are to us here on the Spot. The King and Court are now at *Roan*, and To-morrow I set out; as to the Time of our Return from thence, according to some Calculations it will be about *Christmas*, others say later; this is the Turn Things take at present here. Those with you at *Rome* seem invariable, so little Alteration, and even that so conformable to what should happen. According to Accounts from all Parts, a new Nuncio of *Spain* is much talked of, how many ought
 to

to be concerned in the Race to obtain such a Prize! I entreat you, Sir, to favour me with an Account who is likeliest to succeed; and to love me as usual, while I remain sincerely yours.

Paris, September
6, 1617.

L E T T E R XXXVII.

*To Father Murio Vitelleschi, General of the
Order of Jesuits, at Rome.*

YOU know, reverend Father, the Publick as also the private Considerations, which must interest me in Things relating to your Society; therefore, may easily imagine how much I am rejoiced to see the College re-established at *Paris*, Thanks be to God, who has inspired the King with such worthy Resolutions; laudable were those his Majesty took last Month, in Favour of the Catholick Religion at *Bearn*; nothing could be more beneficial to the Church of *France*. I congratulate you, reverend Father, on this happy Event, with myself for the same Cause, as it will doubtless be to my Credit, that the Church of this Kingdom

dom has obtained some considerable Advantages. The King received my Compliments upon it most graciously, and with lively Demonstrations of Zeal for Religion, and Esteem for your Society. Reverend Father, I affectionately am, —

Paris, February
28, 1617.

L E T T E R XXXVIII.

To the Chevalier Tedeschi, at Venice.

AT last, Sir, I received your Letter, after a long and disagreeable Silence; by the Superſcription I knew it before I opened it, and hoped it would have brought me an Account of your Release. But on reading the Contents, I find your Confinement is rather mitigated, than finished; nevertheless, I enjoy as much as you can imagine, your near Approach to Liberty; for as you remark, those who are acknowledged to be innocent, should be allowed to be free. As to your Affairs I have endeavoured to get an Account by all Methods in my Power; I warmly recommended your Cause to his Excellency *Bon, the Venetian Embassador*, when he left
F this

this Court to return home ; and if I can be of any Service to you here, you may depend upon my Inclinations, and that I shall not fail endeavouring to procure the Favour of his Majesty, if necessary. But no more concerning yourself. Of my Affairs, what shall I say? a Volume would not be sufficient, much less a Letter, to give you an Account of all that has happened. I quitted *Flanders* after nine Years Residence in that Country. Oh! my *Flanders* Court! and Climate so long enjoyed, and with so much Satisfaction. I entered into *Italy* by *Verona*. I scarcely saw *Ferrara* and my Acquaintance there. I arrived at *Rome*, but hardly knew the Place again, so changed I found the Court, with Regard to publick Affairs and Customs; and the City so altered by new Buildings. I had hardly made my Appearance there, when the Court destined me for this Character; which through the Goodness of my Patrons, was quickly accomplished. But if the Government treated me well, in Regard to Honours; *Rome* used me ill, with Regard to my Health. I was often indisposed, and without doubt, the Heats which I had been so long dis-used to, were the principal Occasion of it; nevertheless, *Ferrara* used me worse, for I had a Relapse there in the Autumn, which lasted me above forty Days; at length, with more Resolution of Mind, than Strength of Body, I continued my Journey;

ney ; in which it pleased God to restore me my Health, and establish it on my Arrival at *Paris* ; where I have been already a Year and a half. The Disturbances then, and the Alterations since, have doubtless, penetrated your Prison : This general Account of me is sufficient at this Time. Of your Affairs, I hope and expect better News; but first get out of Confinement, and then we shall correspond more freely, or to express myself plainly, take a Flight into *France*. Oh! how many Things shall we say? and with what Pleasure! You might then shew me that Regard, which I confess, I thought you wanting in, whilst I was in *Flanders*. You will see this fine Kingdom and magnificent Court, and with great Ease may see *England*, *Flanders*, and as you return, *Germany* ; I would have you feel the Pleasure of being really free, by wandering a little out of *Italy* ; since immediately shutting yourself up in *Verona*, will be only retiring to a larger Prison. Renew our former Friendship, in which you will ever find me constant. And to conclude, I embrace you with all my Soul, and wish you, Sir, every real Content.

Paris, May
2, 1618.

L E T T E R XXXIX.

To Mr. John Barclaio, at Rome.

I First knew you, Sir, from Fame, before I was personally acquainted with you. Your Works which I read in *Flanders*, gave me a particular Knowledge of you, and if I at that Time admired your Genius, I must now with others applaud your Piety, which is so plainly discovered by your late Compositions. It only remained, Sir, that your Pen should serve so good a Cause, from which it is not to be doubted, but great Honour will result to you, good Effects to the Church, infinite Consolation to the Catholicks in general, and utter Confusion to the Hereticks. I, for my Part, cannot express the Satisfaction it has given me; I find the Book has been already re-printed at *Paris*; and spreads itself with great Applause. But what will the Hugonots say? particularly to the seventh Chapter, where it is so clearly proved, that *Clovis* the first Christian King of *France* received the Faith at that Time, when, according to their Opinion, there was no longer a Church? Excellent Descent truly, (admitting it to be as they represent it) of most Christian Kings, eldest Sons of that Church, not in Existence, but of that which was to be established in
this

this Kingdom, by the Mouths and impure Pens of *Calvin* and *Beza*. I am greatly desirous to know, what they will say of this Work in *England*. Doubtless, it will make a great Noise there, the Preface only is sufficient. In the mean Time, I return you my particular Thanks for the Copy you have sent me. I am sensible of the Obligation for such a Gift, and conferred by such a Giver. I wish you every real Content.

Paris, May
15, 1618.

L E T T E R XL.

To M. Cosnaro, Clerk of the Chamber, afterwards created a Cardinal by Pope Urban VIII. at Rome.

SO it is: I confess it, I ought to have returned an Answer, Sir, to your Letter, and should have done it, as much from Inclination as Duty ; but was first prevented by a Disorder in my Liver, and afterwards by publick Affairs ; till now I see myself prevented afresh by the Receipt of your obliging Favour. If these Reasons have any Weight, I am sufficiently excused ; if not, I

confess myself conquered : that is to say, in the external Proof of Friendship ; for with Regard to the internal Affection, you must be sensible you have no Advantage over me. I am now retired into the Country to enjoy the fresh Air, and establish my Health. It is five Days since I came to *Noisy*, the Country Seat of Cardinal *de Retz*, distant from *Paris* four small Leagues. The Season cannot possibly be more agreeable for rural Pleasures, nor any Place more adapted for enjoying the Season. The House is situated upon an Eminence, has Gardens, Woods, Plains and Hills; a greater Variety cannot offer to the Eye ; and of Consequence, the Scene cannot be finer ; sometimes altogether, and at other Times separate, it affords such an agreeable Mixture of Objects, as makes one at a Loss where to fix the chief Beauty to so many Views : One only Thing is wanting, which is, Water. If this Place had Fountains, it would, perhaps, be the most delightful Spot in all *France*, and would even exceed *St. Germain's* the King's Palace, which is about a League from hence; and I have taken this Opportunity of seeing it. It is situated on a Hill, and really nothing can be finer. There are particularly, Seats with Steps, of steep Descent, which in double Order shew themselves from the Palace, sloping down almost to the River *Seine*, which here in the Plain underneath, with slow-pace winds about,
till

till by several Turns it again re-unites. In short, it is impossible to imagine a more charming Country than this ; not like our Hills, which are steep, barren and horrible in many Places, or if clad with Grass, without Verdure. But these green Hills of *France* preserve the lively Colour of Spring all the Year, gradually ascending, till they extend along a vast Tract of Land, so that the Prospect is such, that the Eye is not able to follow it; for each succeeding View is more delightful than the former. I have continued six Days here, and should have staid longer, but a Courier from *Rome* recalls me To-morrow to *Paris*; perhaps, soon to chase me from thence, and transfer me to the Court at *Monceaux*, which is likewise a sweet Place, from the Nature of its Situation, Gardens and Buildings. From *Monceaux* as soon as the Court is returned to *Paris*, it is possible his Majesty may go to *Fontainebleau*; the largest Palace the King of *France* has in the Country; but without Prospect, being situated in the Middle of a large Wood, upon a Plain, inhabited by a great Number of Stags; which is the Game his Majesty chiefly delights in. These three Palaces, *viz. Fontainebleau, St. Germain, and Monceaux*, are the nearest to *Paris*, and most frequented by the Court, which soon converts them into Cities; so great and numerous are the Crouds which most commonly follow the King. I

have been a Week from *Paris*; there Multitudes of People, Coaches, Carts, &c. dazzle my Sight, and confute my Brain. Now I enjoy this Repose and Silence, I am, Sir, to answer your Letter. Here I am dedicated to you, having given you so minute a Description of this Place, and so particular an Account of myself, since I have been an Inhabitant of it. With Regard to the publick Affairs of *Italy*, I observe what you write, is owing to your Fears; nevertheless. I hope and expect as at first, that since the Land Affairs are so well adjusted, it will be the same with Regard to the maritime; which may it please God to grant as soon as possible; and that our Country of *Italy* may learn from the Miseries of this War, to enjoy the Blessings of Peace. We here, at this Time, live in profound Quiet; but the Quiet of *France*, which is a State of Uncertainty, and like the Ocean when tranquil, not less deep, nor less exposed to the Fury of the Tempest: So *France*, when it appears the calmest, is the least to be confided in. But in the mean while, let us enjoy the present Serenity, and leave to divine Providence future Accidents. We have had a great Loss in the Death of his Eminency Cardinal *Perron*: He was the *St. Austin* of *France*, and one of the greatest Ornaments of the Age; knew all Things, and whoever heard him discourse on any one Science, must have believed he never made
any

any other his Study. But to return to your Letter, before I conclude this ; I observe the good Wishes you make for me on Occasion of Monsieur *Damelia's* going into *Spain*, and am sensible of your usual Partiality to me and my Affairs ; which makes you as much exceed me in wishing, as I am deficient in deserving it. I beseech God to grant you Success, agreeable to your own Inclinations, together with those of your noble Family, which boasts of six Cardinals. May you soon enjoy the Purple yourself, who by your Merit have so just a Claim to it.

Noisy, September
22, 1618.

I am, &c.

L E T T E R XLI.

To Cardinal d' Retz, at Monceaux.

THANKS be to God, who has given to *France* a King so full of Zeal and Piety : Now more manifest than ever ; his Majesty having within these few Days taken near his royal Person, his Eminency Cardinal *Rocheffoucault*, in the Office of Great Almoner of the Kingdom. And now you, Sir, have the Management of the most weighty Affairs,

Affairs, being placed amongst the Ministers of his most secret Council. There is, it is true, less Reason to congratulate you upon this Occasion, because your Virtues does not seek external Applause. But I infinitely rejoice with his Majesty, with *France*, with Religion and myself; with the King, for the great Praise he will have for it; with *France*, for the Advantages she will reap from it; with Religion, for the Support it will receive from it; and lastly, with myself: Having so earnestly desired to see your Excellency advanced to this Dignity, to which is joined an Employment of so much Honour. Of this Success, I will give an Account to his Holiness, and do not doubt but he will feel a singular Pleasure, and highly approve of what his Majesty has done. I thought to have waited on you myself at *Monceaux*, but the Rumour of the King's setting out for *Soissons*, has made me defer it. I say defer it, because it is not proper the Apartment should remain empty, which you have with so much Kindness prepared for me, being extremely desirous of seeing *Monceaux*, and in that delightful Situation enjoying your Favours, as formerly at *Noisy*. With great Respect,

Paris, September
24, 1618.

I am Sir, &c.

LETTER

L E T T E R XLII.

*To Father Arnulfo, Jesuit and Confessor to
his most Christian Majesty, at Soissons.*

YOUR Journey, reverend Father, to *Blois*, has not in the least deceived our Expectations: At last the Difficulties opposed in vain, by the weak Arguments of others, are overcome by the lively Zeal of your religious Persuasions. I impatiently wished for your setting out and Return, and was concerned that I was absent from *Paris*, when you arrived there. I afterwards thought to go to the Court, but it was immediately known the King was going to remove; so that I would no longer defer paying my Compliments to you. I rejoice with you for the happy Issue of your Negotiations with the Queen Mother; though I hope to have a higher Satisfaction in a personal Meeting: When I shall in a more particular Manner know, what is at present only reported to me by common Fame. I congratulate you, Sir, on his Majesty's Resolution of placing his Eminency Cardinal *du Retz* in his Privy Council. It will be greatly to the Advantage of the Church. I hope for the Continuation of your Friendship, whilst in Return

turn my best Wishes attend you. Reverend
Father, I am, respectfully yours.

Paris, October
1, 1618.

L E T T E R XLIII.

To Mr. Paul Gualdo, Archdeacon of Padua.

I Have received two Letters from you, Sir, one wrote, the other animated ; the last I read in the Words of your Nephew, the former was the obliging Performance of your Pen ; the living one represented to me the Image of yourself ; and the written one, renewed to my Memory past Scenes at *Padua* : nor can I express the Satisfaction both gave me, particularly the seeing the young Gentleman your Relation at *Paris*; together with his Excellency *Angelo Contarini*, our new *Venetian* Embassador. I have been already several Times in his Company; but particularly a few Days since, we were some Time together, and talked of a thousand Things; but our Discourse turned chiefly on you, Sir, and our common Friends. How much am I pleased to hear of the good old Age of our Friend *Pigna*. Methinks I see and hear him,

him, as well as Doctor *Livello*, with his usual Vivacity; and the rest of those you have mentioned; and at this Time a stronger Inclination attacks me to be in *Padua*, though after twenty Years Absence, I should doubtless, find great Alterations there. Concerning the Resolution taken by his Excellency *Ottaviano Bon*, to retire and lead a private Life at *Padua*, I had strong Proofs of it when he was at this Court; how happy is he, who knows how to chuse such a Repose! and in a Place so agreeable: For him it is truly a great Acquisition, the obtaining so much Quiet; but that cannot have happened without great Loss, and Prejudice to the Republick, which remains deprived of so good a Subject. I could tell you, what a good Impression he left here of his Valour and Merit. But happy he, I say again, who amidst the fluctuating State of publick Affairs, has at last reached so calm an Harbour? Henceforward he will live to himself only, and the Enjoyment of his own Virtues; from this Time free from civil Factions, and out of these Storms, which ruffle and discompose our *Italy*. He will not be disturbed with the military Preparations of *Europe*, nor the Quarrels of Princes, who from their own Jealousies, frequently suffer (when in the Midst of profound Peace) the Miseries of War. He shall no longer be a Witness to the unhappy Wrecks, which the Mysteries
of

of Courts so often exhibit to its Votaries, commonly most treacherous, when seemingly most sincere. In this peaceful Asylum, he will not experience those Disquiets and Troubles, which it is necessary to undergo ; in the dark tumultuous Night of this World ; while surrounded with the obscure and tragical Representations acted upon its Theatre. May he then enjoy the Retreat he has chosen, for which I not only applaud, but envy, him. I entreat you to make my Compliments to him, and tell him he should keep in Reserve for me, a little Corner of his agreeable Dwelling, against that Time ; when it shall please God to inspire me with the like Inclination for Retirement, to enjoy my Friends. Pray distribute my Compliments to all with you. And be assured I am,

Paris, December
12, 1618.

Sir, yours.

LETTER

L E T T E R XLIV.

To his Eminency Cardinal d' Este, at
Modena.

I Was at the Congress at *Roban*, when the Death of *Villeroy* happened, all this Kingdom, which was then represented by so grand an Assembly, lamented so publick a Loss, and each one in particular upon this Occasion, exerted himself to give due Praise to his Merit. In the Pulpit it could not be more celebrated than by Father *Cotton*, nor in Print by more noble Compositions than by those of Mr. *Mattei*. And now you, Sir, have published his Fame in our Language, by so fine a Translation, which will greatly redound to the Glory of the deceased. Nor can *France* rejoice more, than to find *Italy* join with her to immortalize his Memory to Posterity. He had a great Esteem for *Italy*; as a Proof of it, would always be talking of our Affairs with great Pleasure, and the Day before his sudden Death, I talked with him a long while at *Roban*, concerning the Differences which then happened in the Affairs of *Italy*, and the Measures taken by *France* to adjust and settle them. I remember he then said to me with an affectionate Zeal for the publick Good: "Let us make this
" Peace

“ Peace for *Italy*, and I shall die contented.” And as if he had prophesied his Death by this Sentence, that same Night he fell ill, and died in a short Time after. Though he did not live to see his Wishes take Effect, nevertheless he left Things in so good a Channel, as shall yield him that Consolation in Heaven, he could not enjoy upon Earth. It is reasonable to think that from so many good Offices executed by him for the publick Service in this Life, that God will amply recompence him amidst the eternal Repose of the other. Indeed a great Minister of State! the most compleat of any *France* has known or even all *Europe*, since the Death of Don *John d’ Idiachez*. They strongly resembled each other, they were co-temporary; both from their Youths instructed in important Affairs; both inclined to be severe; but in each great Constancy, Faith and Integrity. In all their Actions both publick and private, prudent and equal, as if Nature meant to stamp the Resemblance throughout the whole. They were both low of Stature, and alike proportioned: I never saw Don *John*; but eminent Men one sees, and in part knows, from common Fame. The Pleasure I have taken in commemorating these two great Men, has made me ramble more than I intended at the Beginning of my Letter. Then to return to my first Subject and your Translation, I cannot express the Value Mr. *Mattei* put on it.

it, your reading it, he says, would have done him sufficient Honour. I gave him the Volume you designed for him; as to that you intended for me, and for the obliging Letter which accompanied it, I return you my Thanks, and wish you all desirable Happiness.

Paris, December
26, 1618.

L E T T E R XLV.

To the Queen Mother, at Angoulême.

THE Prosperity of this Nation, and of Religion in general, are anxiously wished for by his Holiness; consequently, a perfect Harmony in the royal Family, and a thorough Reconciliation between your Majesties, is essential thereto. For this happy Event, he fervently puts up his Prayers to Almighty God, and has ordered me in his Name to do every good Office in my Power, to bring about an entire Union: Which I have already endeavoured several Times with your Majesty, as also with the King. You may imagine, how much his Holiness will be concerned, to hear of the Disturbances
G that

that are fomenting in this Kingdom. Since your Majesty quitted *Blois*, from that Time I have not failed to obey his Holiness's Command here with the King, having exhorted and besought his Majesty, and used the most powerful Arguments, that he would on his Part, incline to that Intercourse of Affection and perfect Reconciliation with your Majesty; which, for several Reasons, is most ardently desired. I found the King perfectly well disposed for it, and do not doubt I should have found your Majesty equally well inclined, could I have had a personal Conversation; but as I cannot at present be absent from the King, I take the Liberty humbly to entreat your Majesty, that you would vouchsafe to hearken to Father *Berulle* in my Stead, who attends you, Madam, for Reasons which he will explain to you, and I beg you will regard what he says, as my Sentiments, the singular Zeal and sound Judgment of this Father, is already known to your Majesty; so that I am infinitely rejoiced that he is appointed upon this Occasion to treat with you, not doubting but you will willingly hear his Proposals, and kindly receive his Councils; since they are certainly designed for the Glory of God, the publick Good of *France*, and the particular Satisfaction of your Majesty. I hope Heaven will crown this Expedition with Success, and favour his Negotiations; particularly, as they will be strengthened

strengthened by those of Mr. *Bethune*, a Gentleman of so much Prudence and Goodness; and that *France* may soon triumph, in seeing the Souls of your Majesties more strongly united than ever: And that the whole Kingdom may be so too, by the strictest Love and Duty; which, with my most internal Affection, I pray God to grant. I humbly kiss your Majesty's Hands,

Paris, December
26, 1618.

And am, &c.

L E T T E R XLVI.

To Mr. Paul Gualdo, Archdeacon of Padua.

I Knew of the Departure of your Nephew, before I knew he was determined to set out; and must confess, the Resolution did not please me, to fly from *France* almost as soon as arrived; perhaps, the Affairs of this Court do not deserve a particular Attention. If travelling is only to enable us to describe the Country, Dress of the Inhabitants, &c. when we return, we observe the most trivial Things, and rather amuse the Eye than improve the Understanding. Whereas, whoever leaves his own Country to see the

G 2

World,

World, I would wish him to remark, the Customs of foreign Nations ; the Disposition of their Princes ; the Nature of their Councils ; their Strength, Religion and Laws ; and in what Manner commanding is blended with obeying. How they are with their Allies ; what are the reigning Humours in each Government ; and what the proper Recipe, if Medecine could take place. These are the Observations, which those who make the Tour of *Europe*, should possess themselves of. For as the Soul is the Life of the Body, so is Government the Life of Kingdoms ; therefore, to this Study, should all our Attention be paid : The rest is gross, at best a superficial Knowledge, the Result of a foolish Curiosity only. But the Government of Kingdoms cannot be learned in a Day or two ; the Secrets of States are Mysteries, not easily penetrated ; Application and Time are equally necessary. *France*, so spacious a Country, so divided in Matters of Religion, and so often agitated by civil Discords, is a proper Place to attain this Knowledge. *France* is one of the largest Courts in *Europe*, and one of the most considerable Governments in the whole World ; which, together with so many other Things worthy of Observation, is sufficient to employ a speculative Mind for Years. But above all, that Vicissitude we daily see here, is singular ; and greatly contributes to teach us Dexterity in the Management

ment of publick Affairs. In short, *France* may serve as a School for other Nations, since the extraordinary Events, which happen in other Parts of the Globe, yield to the more wonderful Prodigies of this our *Gallic* Shore. It was therefore necessary, your Nephew should have continued here, during the Embassy of his Excellency *Contarini*. You already know, Sir, the remarkable Accident that happened, quickly after his Arrival at *Paris*, in the sudden Flight of the Queen Mother from *Blois*; which has bred such heavy Disturbances here. How much do I wish to be with his Excellency *Bon*, to discourse with him upon this Incident, as we did two Years ago on that so unexpected, when the Queen retired from *Paris*. These will, to you, appear uncommon Circumstances, great in themselves, still more so from the publick Consequences. We are already in Arms, and at the Vigil of strange Events, if God does not take Compassion of *France*. But let us leave *France* and come to your Letter. It was a Shame it should be delivered to me so late, since if I desired any Letters to have Wings, I should wish them to yours; so dear is every Testimony of your Friendship to me, and so much Pleasure does the Remembrance of *Padua* give me. With Regard to the Chevalier *Tedeschi*, it was easy for me to imagine, he would not have the Heart to come here, neither has he vouch-

safed to write to me, nor to rhyme in my
 Praise. You have rejoiced me, Sir, by the
 Accounts you have given of the Bishop of
Feltre : It is an Age since the cruel Creature
 writ to me; a fine Excuse this northern Situ-
 ation, for not making it his winter Residence.
 I was nine Years in *Flanders*, and am not
 yet frozen. If I should return to *Italy*, let
 him expect for this Time I suspend my
 Threats, for his Excellency *Bon*, my affection-
 ate Compliments attends him, a thousand
 Times. I have envied his Retreat at *Padua*,
 which appears every Day more desirable to
 me, both from my Love to Retirement itself,
 and from the turbulent Life I lead here in
France. To you, Sir, I wish all imagin-
 able Content. And remain faithfully yours,
 &c.

Paris, March
 28, 1619.

LETTER

L E T T E R XLVII.

*To Father Berulle, Superior-General of the
Congregation of the Order of Regular
Priests in France; created Cardinal by
Pope Urban VIII. at Angoulême.*

YOUR Letter, reverend Father, made a long Tour before it was delivered to me: From *Tours* to *Paris*, from thence back again to this Place, where I now am, upon publick Affairs, by the particular Order of his Majesty. I read it with infinite Satisfaction, and have a thousand Times thanked God for the good Disposition of Affairs, relating to the Queen Mother; and particularly, that you have had so great a Hand in this Negociation, whose great Zeal and Prudence promised from the Beginning those happy Effects which already make their Appearance: I have not yet seen the King, but hope To-day or To-morrow, to treat of this Affair with his Majesty. In the mean Time, I have had full Information of the State of Things here; and, without doubt, the Arrival of the Prince of *Piedmont*, must greatly contribute to remove all Suspicion, establish a Confidence, and with the greatest Ease conduct this Business to Perfection. You may imagine, I shall not fail to continue my good

Offices jointly with all the well-meaning People, to the End that we may see at last an entire Reconciliation between their Majesties ; and with the domestick Peace of the royal Family, likewise establish the publick Tranquility of the Kingdom. I am, Sir, respectfully yours.

Tours, June
14, 1619.

L E T T E R XLVIII.

To the Queen Mother, at Angoulême.

AS nothing could more effect his Holiness, than to hear of the unhappy Differences between your Majesty and the King your Son, so prejudicial to the Repose of this Kingdom ; so nothing could give more Satisfaction to the Pope than an Agreement between your Majesties, and seeing *France* restored to its former Tranquility. His Joy on this Event, has still been greater, by receiving the Account of it from your Majesty, with such Marks of Confidence and Affection. By the Brief you will see his Holiness's Answer, and by the annexed Letter how much his Eminency Cardinal *Borghese*

Borgheſe thinks himſelf honoured, by your Maſteſty's Condeſcenſion in writing to him on this Subject. This Occaſion makes me preſume to take my Pen, to congratulate your Maſteſty on this happy Event; which I do with the moſt lively Sentiments of my Soul, both from the Conſideration of the publick Good, and from my great Regard and Reſpect to your royal Perſon. May it pleaſe God, that this Succeſs may be attended with others not leſs joyful, and that amidſt the general Happineſs of the Nation, your own private Satisfaction may always increaſe. I humbly am, with the utmoſt Reſpects,

Your Maſteſty's devoted,

and obedient Servant.

L E T T E R XLIX.

To the ſame, at Angoulême.

THE Reſolution your Maſteſty has taken to come to *Tours* in Perſon, to reconcile yourſelf to the King your Son, is worthy your ſingular Prudence. A more glorious Day than this, could not dawn on *France*. And you may eaſily believe, our
Joy

Joy must be great, to see the Completion of our most ardent Wishes. I assure your Majesty, his Holiness could not receive a higher Satisfaction, and that he has not had any Dispatches a great while so agreeable as these, which will carry him the wished-for Account. I beseech your Majesty amidst the general Rejoicings, to permit me to testify my own private Satisfaction ; which I take the Liberty to express in this Letter, till I can acquit myself in Person. I have the Honour to be your Majesty's most devoted, &c.

Tours, August
18, 1619.

L E T T E R L.

To the Grand Duke of Tuscany.

TH E Return of the Queen Mother to the King her Son, has elated the Hearts of all these People ; nor is it to be doubted, but your Highness (being related to their Majesties, and particularly interested in this Kingdom) will receive much Pleasure from the Event. I am now to congratulate your Highness upon this Occasion ; for the facilitating of which, his Holiness was indefatigable,

gable, nor could this Business receive greater Force, than by what I have transacted in his Holiness's Name. The Queen arrived here the Day before Yesterday in perfect Health, and was received by the King, with all the lively Marks of Love, and Respect. I beseech God, that as much as your Highness may rejoice for this Reconciliation, so happy for *France*; so in Return, may this Nation have frequent Opportunities of rejoicing with you. I am, Sir,

Tours, September
7, 1619.

Respectfully yours.

L E T T E R L I.

To the Chevalier Marini, at Paris.

W H Y did I not see you before I left *Fontainbleau*? Without doubt, I should have taken you with me willingly, or by Compulsion: Though I am apt to think, it would have been rather an Act of Choice, supposing you would have been desirous of seeing *Fontainbleau*; which is the finest Palace the King of *France* has in the Country. But if I could not enjoy the Pleasure of your Conversation, I have however, had that of
your

your Works. On the Roads they were my chief Delight, and now I am fixed, are my principal Amusement. What a Genius! what Purity! what fine Thoughts! But what Resolution do you take concerning several other Compositions, that are either compleated, or in a Way to be so; by deferring to publish, you are an Enemy to your Fame, to the Liberality of so great a Monarch, to *France* and *Italy*; agreed in the same Opinion, or rather ambitious of sharing in your Applause. But above all Things, dear Sir, let me entreat you to remember, what I have so often repeated to you; which is, to keep your *Adonis* free from indecent Expressions, that he may have nothing to apprehend from the censorious Darts of our *Italy*. Which may secure him from dying, more unhappily the second Time than he did the first, by you so poetically expressed? I conclude, you will not be the Murderer of your own Offspring; in the mean Time, let us enjoy the agreeable Sound of your Flagelet. Pray, why do you give us that long Letter, or rather Apology, to the little Criticks and the Priests? You have too much lessened your own Merit, and paid to great a Compliment to the Desire of your Adversaries. Contempt is the highest Punishment the Envious can be sensible of. The Thunderbolt never hurts the Heavens, and whoever is arrived to your Pitch of Eminence, should
not

not regard half a Dozen vain Shadows who do not agree in the general Applause, the World gives your Performances; amongst the great Men, whether antient or modern, of what Profession you please, can you name me any, who have not found Rivals to their Glory? and amongst the Poets, not to mention the antient Authors, it is enough to quote only such as have flourished in our Days; such as *Tasso* and *Guarini*, have they not felt (think you) the sharp Teeth of Envy? nevertheless, we laugh at the Opposition made to their Works; by which, they are immortalized here. Thus my Friend, has it happened, and such is the Fate of the Learned, whatever may be the Science they profess. In short, Success gives Life or Death, to Men of eminent Talents; from thence proceed the final Sentence, and from that incorruptible Tribunal we must expect it. This is sufficient upon this Subject, the rest, when we meet. I intend to stay all this Week at *Mulen*, to enjoy the good Air and fine Situation a little longer. I have already been at *Fontainbleau*, and design to return there To-morrow. It is indeed a fine Palace, and worthy such a Monarch: Notwithstanding it is not regularly built, but is several Houses joined together without Method, or Order, so that it is a large confused Structure; yet this same Jumble of Architecture, is elegant, superb, and majestick. The Situation

is

is rather low, and has something disagreeable in it, at this Season of the Year especially, when the Country is not yet green. It lies in the Middle of a large Forest. The House is surrounded with strong Hills, which, as they are barren, afford no Entertainment to the Sight. The Forest is full of Stags; hunting them is a favourite Diversion of the Kings of *France*, for which this Situation is peculiarly well adapted; otherwise, little remarkable in itself, till it became the Seat of royal Sports. Nevertheless, there are not wanting prodigious fine Gardens, and besides the principal Fountain, which gives Name to the Palace, there are many others which greatly adorn it. But why don't you take a View of it yourself! you might arrive soon enough to see it, more than once, before I return to *Paris*. This long Letter is wrote in a State of Recovery, by which you may observe, the Pleasure I take in corresponding with you at a Distance, now it is out of my Power to converse with you nearer. Dear Sir, I wish you every real Happiness, and am,

Mulen, April
7, 1620.

Yours, &c.

LETTER

L E T T E R LII.

To the Prince of Vaûdmont, at Nancy.

AS your Excellency has in every Virtue exceeded the Expectations of your Family; so one may say, you have even excelled yourself, by the generous Resolution you have taken (in such tender Years) industriously to interfere in the Wars of *Germany*. But as the Motives which induce you to it are so laudable (such as the serving in the Catholick Cause) it is not to be doubted, but that God will administer Strength beyond your Years, and Fortune superior to every Danger. May you then set out happily, while I hope to see you return with greater Applause (if possible) than accompanies you to the Army. In the mean Time accept my most grateful Acknowledgements, for the obliging Letter you was pleased to write to me upon this Occasion. While with the truest Respect I remain your Excellency's

Paris, April
15, 1620.

Most obedient, &c.

LETTER

L E T T E R LIII.

To the Prince Bozzolo, at Bozzolo.

THE Death of the Bishop of *Mantua* (now in Paradise) has deprived the Church of a great Prelate, your Excellencies Family of a great Ornament, and mine of a Relation; who by all belonging to me was esteemed with infinite Affection. But since from God every human Accident is derived, we must submit to his divine Will, every Consideration which carries with it, either Life or Death. I return your Excellency my best Thanks, for the Account you gave me of this Affair; which carries in itself so much Concern, and is attended with my Condolence. Here you will always find me ready to serve you, with an Inclination equal to my Obligations; and that I am,

Paris, April
21, 1620.

Sir, &c.

LETTER

L E T T E R L I V.

To Cardinal Borgia, at Rome.

W H E N I left *Flanders*, I was so loaded with Favours by your Brother, to which I may add those Civilities received from your Excellency at the Court of *Rome*, that I ought always most ardently to wish your Family all Increase, and rejoice for every Instance of its Prosperity. The Character designed you by his most Catholick Majesty, of the Government of the Kingdom of *Naples*, is an Employment of the utmost Importance, consequently, a proper Field to display your Abilities, in which you have often given many Instances of at the Court of *Rome*. I entreat you, Sir, to approve of my Congratulations, and that you will continue to me the Honour I have formerly enjoyed, of your Favour and Protection. I am your Eminency's

Paris, April
23, 1620.

Devoted Servant, &c.

L E T T E R LV.

To an English Gentleman, at Bruffels.

IN Friendship, those who remember longest, love most. Then yield to me, Sir, in Point of Affection, for it is an Age since I have received any Mark of yours, though I have testified mine by various Methods; that I may say, for some Time past my Soul has dwelt with you. I have been with you in *England*; was in *London*, and ran the Hazard of taking the Oaths; with you obtained a glorious Victory; and with you returned into *Flanders*; and at this Time my Heart is with you at *Bruffels*. But yet, notwithstanding your Silence, I cannot but believe you sometimes think of me. I now write, by the Opportunity which offers of Mr. *Daniel's* Arrival here, who will soon be with you, and by Word of Mouth atone for the Deficiencies of my Pen. But you, Sir, who are an *English Ulysses*, when will you make a little Tour into *France*? Let it be whilst I am here, but I am told, you have done with travelling and Courts, and now think of nothing but the Joy of a quiet Life. If this is true, how much do I envy you: And wish for the future, to make that Time my own, which I have hitherto, consumed for others.

others. Our Years fly away my Friend, and so does Life ; as in a River one Wave succeeds another, without returning ; so it is in human Life, each new Day blots out the former, and that never more rises, which once is set. I would then methinks, without further Expectations, gladly retreat from this Scene of publick Affairs, and live for myself and my own private Tranquility: But, be it as God pleases, since to the Laws of his Will we must submit. I am, dear Sir, most faithfully

Paris, May
19, 1620.

Yours, &c.

L E T T E R LVI.

To the same, at Brussels.

L E T there no longer be a War between our Affections, already they have contended enough, and since your's will not yield to mine, let the Victory remain equal. You, Sir, may easily imagine, I shall not be displeased to receive from you an equal Exchange of Regard. Yesterday your Letter arrived, and To-day I answer it. With Relation to the *Spanish* Book of *Audi Filia*, I accept the Offer, and expect by the first

Opportunity the Execution of it, here; it is not to be had, and admitting it was, your Copy of it will have the Spirit both of the Author and the Giver; and of consequence, the Advantage I shall reap from it will be greater. It is certain, the *Spaniards* are clever Men in their spiritual Compositions; their Language carries a greater Weight, from the Solidity of Expressions; nevertheless, our *Italian* Author, *Bellarmino*, has displayed his Piety in his Works, as he has enforced his Doctrine in Controversy. There is now published a little Book of his, which teaches the Art of Dying, which to me seems a most useful Knowledge. Instructing us how to die, is, without doubt, the chief of Arts; since this not succeeding, what avails it having put in Practice all others in the highest Perfection; as he who has escaped a thousand Rocks and Tempests in the Ocean, cannot be said to have made a happy Voyage till he is arrived in Port. So amidst the Hurricanes and Dangers of human Affairs, none can boast of living, till the grand Period of Dying. I send a Copy of this Book to you, Sir, as perhaps, you have not yet met with it. As to the rest, why do you deny me, to share with you that pleasing Quiet you propose to yourself? as I know it is so much more desirable than this noisy Life, and the Management of publick Affairs, with the Attendance on a Court, so much more I long to retreat.

Oh!

Oh! happy Day if ever it arrives. But no more ; thinking too much of what we are denied, converts our most joyous Wishes into Torments, so farewell. Believe me

Paris, June
4, 1620.

Yours.

L E T T E R LVII.

To the Queen Mother, at Angiers.

IT was with inexpressible Pleasure observed by his Holiness, that a Reconciliation was established between your Majesty and the King, your Son ; upon your late Interview at *Tours*. He then hoped you would soon fix yourself near the Person of the King, and by that Means manifest your Union of Hearts, and establish the Peace of the Kingdom with that of the royal Family. But his Holiness has since seen, with the greatest Affliction, that not only this has not happened, but that the former Suspicions and Misunderstandings are again rekindled, and with them the former Dangers ; so much the greater, as after any Disease, a Relapse is most to be feared. So that lately I have received his Holiness's Command, to do all the good

Offices in his Name with the King, which such an important Affair requires. Agreeable to these my Orders, I a few Days ago spoke to his Majesty ; exhorting and beseeching him in the strongest Terms, that he would endeavour on his Part, to create a better Understanding with your Majesty. I represented to him, how much this was due to God, to natural Affection to his Kingdom in general, to Christianity, to the established Religion of *France*, and to the same Religion out of his Dominions ; but particularly in *Germany*, where the Hereticks are endeavouring to oppress it, and where his Majesty has promised by so many Proofs of Piety to protect it, which it is almost impossible to effect while these domestick Divisions reign. The King replied, that he had always endeavoured to give all imaginable Satisfaction to your Majesty, and knew he was never deficient in paying you all due Honours and Respect ; that he had sent several Times to beg you would come to him, that it was three Times the Purport of Monsieur de *Blenville's* Embassy ; and concluded with telling me, there was nothing he so ardently desired ; as to live in a perfect Harmony with you, Madam, and to convince you of it, by every affectionate Proof in his Power : This was my Business with the King, and that the Answer I received from his Majesty. And now to fulfill every Part of my Commission from his Holiness,

ness, there only remains, that I should employ the same good Offices with you, Madam; but as the present Situation of Affairs requires my Attendance on the King, I must entreat your Majesty to let this Letter have the same Weight as a personal Conversation. I am now to remark the above Considerations; by which his Holiness beseeches your Majesty with all imaginable Affection, on your Part to endeavour at a happy Union with the King your Son, for so many Reasons it is required of you, the particular Good of this Kingdom, and of Christianity in general, and above all things to avoid by every Method possible, (as I have likewise remarked to the King) every Occasion of coming to Arms; since no one better knows than your Majesty, the Nature of civil Disturbances, or how much they are deprived the Liberty of Choice, after being once in Action, who were at first free to begin it, and how equally pernicious are the Effects of War, both to the Conqueror and the Conquered. At this Time *France* makes a deplorable Figure from the Wound she has received. Heresy being introduced amidst these civil Wars, and by these Armies has found Means to fix itself. Your Majesty must know, a heavier Punishment cannot be inflicted upon us than this: Your Majesty must be sensible, that heretical Tenets tend to form a republican Government, directly opposite to the tem-

ral Monarchy of the King, as they have already formed one contrary to the spiritual one of the Church. As then amidst the civil Wars, and particularly from the Dis-union of the Catholick Body, Heresy takes its Birth, and is nourished: So by the publick Peace and Harmony of that Body it is to be kept under, if not destroyed. Your Majesties if reconciled, would be the Soul of this Union. These are the Considerations which his Holiness, my Master, has had before him, which he has commanded me in his Name, to represent to the King and your Majesty. I have anxiously wished for a personal Conference to discharge this Duty, and to give every Proof in my Power, of my particular Regard for your Majesty. But as this is not permitted me, I have desired the Archbishop of *Sens*, that he would execute this Business for me. I humbly entreat you, Madam, to give him the same Credit you would to myself; for his Holiness will have great Satisfaction, that the King has employed such eminent Persons as he now sends to treat with your Majesty; particularly, so worthy a Prelate. God grant Success to this important Affair, and to your Majesty all Happiness. I have the Honour to be, &c.

Paris, July
3, 1620.

LETTER

L E T T E R LVIII.

To his most Christian Majesty.

GREATER Glory could not have happened to your Majesty, than thus signalizing your Piety immediately after your Victory; all which your Majesty has proved in a few Days, overcoming every Opposition, and conquering even Victory itself; by having given Peace to your Dominions, and establishing so happy an Union with the Queen Mother, that it is a doubt, which of the two Monarchs your Majesty strives to imitate; the King, your Father, glorious in Battle, or the King *St. Lewis*, (whose Name you bear) so famed for Piety. I who can easily form to myself the Joy his Holiness will feel on this happy Event, am now to represent it to your Majesty, and in fulfilling the Duty of my publick Character. Presume (royal Sir) to testify my private Satisfaction, together with my entire Devotion to your Majesty's Service. That the supreme Being may add to your present Felicity, others still superior, is the fervent Prayer of your Majesty's most obsequious and obedient, &c.

Paris, August
26, 1620.

LETTER

L E T T E R LIX.

To his Eminency Cardinal de Retz, at the Court.

YOU have, Sir, by your prudent Council, succeeded better than others have done by Force of Arms; so that it is no Wonder to those who have the Honour of knowing you, that principally, through your Means, this desirable Peace has been given to *France*. For this happy Event, so greatly to your Credit, I affectionately congratulate you, Sir, beseeching God, that he will be pleased to prosper the Affairs of Consequence relating to this Monarch, and to your Person in particular. The Arrival of the Queen at *Tours*, makes me hope to be soon at the Court; which I the more anxiously desire, that we may exchange this Commerce of Letters for a personal Interview; and I, by that Means, be better enabled to shew my particular Attachment to your Eminency. Being with the utmost Respect, &c.

Paris, August
27, 1620.

LETTER

L E T T E R LX.

*To Father Berulle, Superior-General of the
Congregation of Regular Priests.*

AT length we have a Peace : Thanks to Almighty God for it, great and unexpected are always the Novelties of *France*. I cannot form to myself any Thing more sudden than this, since we have seen the same Day give War and Peace to these Dominions. I have observed with infinite Satisfaction, what you was pleased to write to me, that the King and the Queen his Mother, are determined to separate no more, since without doubt their parting last Year, gave Birth to a thousand Evils; so their living united together will be the most probable Means to avoid them for the future. The Prince of *Conde* deserves great Praise; so in a particular Manner, does the Duke of *Luines*, for having with so much Zeal, employed his Authority and good Offices with his Majesty, for the bringing about a Reconciliation. May they enjoy the happy Effects of this Peace, in which it is to be imagined, a more favourable Opportunity cannot offer for the uniting so many Armies to the Advantage of the Church. May it please God to inspire with good Councils, those who are appointed to give them to his

his Majesty. I shall endeavour to fullfil my Part soon, by my personal Attendance ; and am perswaded upon so important an Occasion, you will not let us want your Assistance. I wish you all imaginable Content, and am, reverend Father, &c.

Paris, August
28, 1620.

L E T T E R LXI.

To his most Christian Majesty.

GOD has reserved your Majesty's greatest Victories chiefly for *Bearn* ; and has conducted you thither by his own Hand, as there happened such glorious Effects from it. Your Majesty by your royal Presence, immediately restored to them the due Worship of God, the former Honours paid to Altars, the Riches belonging to the Church, and the free Exercise of their Religion. And at the same Time that you shewed the strictest Justice, you signalized your exemplary Piety by so doing, with so much Advantage to your own royal Authority ; that it will remain a doubt, which first took Place, the singular Service your Majesty rendered to Religion,

ligion, or the Reward God had prepared for your Majesty. It is evident by this, as well as by a thousand Instances, that the Catholick Faith is blended with the Interests of your Majesty. The common *Jubilee* of *Paris*, and of this Nation in general for so important an Event, makes me presume to manifest my Joy by Means of this Letter ; full of my most respectful Regard for your Majesty, though in the first Place, agreeable to the Duty of my Office ; I am to represent the inexpressible Joy his Holiness will receive upon this Occasion. I beseech the Almighty Being, that he will grant your Majesty a long Term of Life ; and that he will be pleased with your Years, to increase your Happiness with profound Humility. I am, Royal Sir, &c.

Paris, October
26, 1620.

LETTER

L E T T E R LXII.

*To the Bishops of Lescar and Oleron, in
Bearn.*

AFTER fifty Years of Darknes, it has pleased God to restore the true Light to *Bearn*, and to send that Day so much wished-for by you, by the other Ecclesiasticks and Catholicks of the Country; and by all good People in general of other Nations. Truth has succeeded Error, lawful Prelates have succeeded false Pastors, Religion has succeeded Heresy. In fine, the Church receives her whole Strength, and with the Rights of the Church, the King increases his royal Authority. Divine Providence is still more conspicuous in this Affair; since God has given this King not less Zeal, than his glorious Ancestor *St. Lewis*, since he has effected this Work by Means of his Majesty, and with such Circumstances, as makes it appear still more wonderful. Praised be the Almighty for this Success, for which I congratulate you, reverend Fathers, and rejoice to see you restored to those Dignities and that Wealth, conferred on you by the Church. I will give his Holiness a particular Account of it, and know he will be thankful to God for it, and highly approve of the Zeal you have shewn upon this Occasion,

(III)

sion, which has terminated so greatly to the Credit of the Clergy, and the Good of their Flocks. There only now remains, that in the guiding and conducting of them such Diligence be used, as the State of Things requires, after their having been so long without their true Teachers. In which I am sensible you will not be wanting in contributing your Part. In the mean Time, I offer them my Services here with the holy See, or in what else may occur at this Court, in which I can be any Ways useful. And to conclude, I am, reverend Fathers, most respectfully yours, &c.

Paris, October
26, 1620.

L E T T E R LXIII.

To his Eminency Cardinal de Retz, at the Court.

HIS Majesty's Victories first take Birth in his Councils, therefore it is manifest how great a Hand you had in his late Success at *Bearn*. The Gentleman dispatched hither, came to find me by Order of his Majesty, and gave me an exact Account of all that

that had happened to the Time of his Departure. Amongst other Things he told me, he saw your Eminency at *Navarrino*, which I was greatly rejoiced to hear, because by this Means, you was not only present at all Consultations, but at the Time when a Place of such Importance fell into the Hands of his Majesty. This and other Actions of this Monarch, so magnanimous and pious, have filled *Paris* with universal Joy; and mine you may judge of by your own. His Holiness will receive the highest Satisfaction from it, and I could wish my Letter had Wings, for his more speedy Information. From my Soul I rejoice, and hope soon to do it more to my Satisfaction, when I have the Honour to have an Interview with your Eminency: In Expectation of which, I remain,

Paris, October
28, 1620.

Sir, &c.

LETTER

L E T T E R LXIV.

To his Holiness Pope Paul V.

YOUR Holiness from the Beginning of your Pontificate, has with the greatest Benignity, imparted to me your Favours, by a continual Succession of Kindnesses. But this now lately conferred on me, by my Promotion to the Dignity of a Cardinal, exceeds all others received. Your Holiness is infinitely good to me, and I confess my own Inability of making an Acknowledgment, adequate to the Greatness of my Obligation, any otherwise, than by a Silence, full of awful Respect. As to the rest, I hope God will enable me to fill this Dignity, with so much Zeal for the apostolical See, and with so much Attachment to your Holiness, as may leave you no Cause to repent having favoured me, and so greatly honoured my Family by this my Promotion. Before you was exalted to the papal Chair, your singular Merit had long rendered you worthy of it, and my Satisfaction is doubled, thus to be distinguished by so eminent a Pope who has always studied to benefit the Church, by the strictest Punctuality in performing every ecclesiastical Duty, agreeable to the sacred Character you bear.

I am, with all Humility, now to conclude
and kifs your Holiness's Feet.

Paris, January
31, 1621.

L E T T E R LXV.

*To his Eminency Cardinal Borghese, at
Rome.*

AS you, Sir, was pleased to obtain for me the Nunciature of *France* and *Flanders*, which great Employment, I enjoyed through your Interest and Patronage, so to your good Offices I attribute the Honour of receiving a Cardinal's Hat, which his Holiness has been pleased to dignify me with. You, Sir, may easily imagine, I am sensible of these high Obligations, not to be expressed by any Language, suitable to the grateful Sentiments with which my Heart overflows; then you, Sir, cannot wonder, if I am wanting in Terms, to return you a proper Acknowledgment, equal to the Favours received. But to make Amends for these Deficiencies, may the Almighty Being render me capable of worthy Actions! And that together with this Increase of Power, Opportunity

nity may offer, for doing every Thing that can best testify my grateful Devotion to your Eminency. Being most

Paris, January
31, 1621.

Respectfully, &c.

L E T T E R LXVI.

To his Imperial Majesty.

MY Nephew, Marquis *Bentivoglio*, died last Year in your Majesty's Service ; and nothing afflicted him so much, when drawing his last Breath, as the Reflection that he could no longer manifest his Zeal for you. I, who equally with him, have always been ambitious of shewing my Attachment to your Majesty, am now to acquaint you of my Promotion to the Dignity of a Cardinal, and to entreat your Majesty to command any Services I can do in this Station. It is the Will of Heaven, which has exalted your Majesty to the imperial Throne, to espouse the Cause of the Catholick Church, that you may acquire more Glory by your Attachment to Religion, than by the greatest temporal Conquests obtained by your Arms, which is not so essentially your Interest as is

the other. I entreat your Majesty to believe that, as here with his most Christian Majesty; I have not been wanting to serve you whenever any Occasion offered: (Particularly last Year, when the Count *de Fistemberg* was sent your Embassador extraordinary.) So I shall not fail at *Rome*, to exert myself on every Opportunity, which may manifest to that Court, my Respect, and Regard for your royal Person. I pray God to confer on you the highest Happiness.

Paris, February
10, 1621.

And am, &c.

L E T T E R LXVII.

To his most Catholick Majesty.

MANY of my Family have had the Honour to serve your Majesty, more than one have lost their Lives in your Army in *Flanders*, and during the Time I was Nuncio there, I had an Opportunity of shewing my Attachment to your royal Person. Likewise here in *France* I have endeavoured to signalize myself in whatever concerned your Majesty; and to give all requisite

requisite Proofs of my sincere Desire to serve you to your Ministers, but in a more particular Manner, to the most Christian Queen your Daughter. Therefore, as a farther Demonstration of my Respect, am now to acquaint your Majesty, that it has pleased his Holiness my Master, to raise me to the Dignity of a Cardinal. I intreat your Majesty graciously to accept of this my Duty, and to rest persuaded, that I shall not be less ambitious of shewing my Devotion to you henceforward at the Court of *Rome*, than I have been here in *France*: For I esteem it a Piece of good Fortune, the serving the Interests of your royal Crown, who always make the Cause of the Church your own, and Piety the Rule of your Government! I pray God, that he will grant your Majesty a long and prosperous Reign. And am, with profound Humility, &c.

Paris, February
12, 1621.

L E T T E R LXVIII.

*To the most Serene Cardinal Infant, at
Madrid.*

THE Promotion of your Highness to a Cardinal, does the greatest Honour to the sacred College; so that whoever enters into that Order can have no higher Ambition, than to serve a Prince, who has given so much Lustre to that Dignity. I, who (through the Goodness of his Holiness) am exalted to that sacred Character, with the utmost Respect offer my Service to your Highness, and do beseech you to furnish me with frequent Opportunities of shewing my Attachment, in as lively a Manner by my Actions, as is this zealous Tender of it by Letter. I pray God, that he will long continue to the Church, that Good, bestowed on it, in your serene Person. With Humility I am your Highness's

*Paris, February
12, 1621.*

Obedient, &c.

L E T T E R

L E T T E R LXIX.

To the most Serene Infanta, at Brussels.

YOUR Highness knows with how much Devotion I have always desired to serve you in my Nunciature, when near your serene Person? and how much I am anxious to do the same here at the *French Court*, with the most Christian Queen your Neice. So that your Highness will easily believe, that this Dignity conferred upon me is upon no Account so agreeable to me, as from knowing myself better qualified for the receiving and executing your Commands: For which Reason, I presume to advise your Highness of my Promotion, and to entreat you to continue to me those obliging Marks of your Favour at the Court of *Rome*, which for so many Years you was pleased to honour me with, when at your Court in *Flanders*. May God long preserve your Highness, and grant you that Completion of Happiness, due to your royal Virtues.

Paris, February
12, 1621.

I am, &c.

L E T T E R LXX.

To the Serene Archduke Alberto, at Brus-
fels.

I Departed from the Court of your Highness distinguished with so many Marks of your Favours, as can never be erased from my Memory, though I cannot sufficiently testify my Gratitude; nevertheless, permit me to lay these my new Honours at your Highness's Feet, at the same time that I acquaint you with my Preferment. Nothing will add a greater Pleasure to my Increase of Fortune, than the finding myself equally subject to your Authority, the same at the Court of *Rome*, as when I was Nuncio in *Flanders*. I beseech the supreme Being, that he will long preserve to your Highness, the Happiness you so largely distribute to your Subjects. With the utmost Respect.

Paris, February
12, 1621.

I am, &c.

LETTER

L E T T E R LXXI.

To the Marquis Spinola, Councillor of State to his most Catholick Majesty, Field-Marshal in Flanders, and Captain-General of the Army in the Palatinate.

I Cannot give your Excellency an Account of my Promotion to a Cardinal's Hat, till I have first congratulated you upon your Son's being preferred to the same Dignity. I infinitely rejoice with you on his obtaining these ecclesiastical Honours, joined to the military Preferments given to your Family in your own Person. And I doubt not, but the Cardinal will imitate your Virtues, by effectually serving the Catholick Cause, in the Affairs of the Church as your Excellency has done, and still continues to do in the military Way. After this Discharge of my Duty, I am to inform your Excellency of the same Dignity conferred on me, earnestly desiring you will dispose of me in the same Manner, without Ceremony, as you did while I was in Character as Nuncio in *France* and *Flanders*, and that your Excellency will believe, your Son cannot have a more devoted Servant at the Court of *Rome* than myself. And I hope my Conduct will always entitle me to enjoy the Continuance of your Favours. But I cannot conclude

clude this Letter till I have wished you Joy of your glorious Successes in the *Palatinate* ; which 'are such as might be expected from such an Army, commanded by so great a General, in the Defence of so good a Cause. May it please God to increase your Conquests, and to grant to your Excellency all desirable Prosperity. I affectionately

Paris, February
12, 1621.

am, &c.

L E T T E R LXXII.

To the Count Bucoy, General to his Imperial Majesty.

I Am so satisfied of the Joy your Excellency has had upon my being exalted to the sacred Dignity of a Cardinal, that I seem already to have received your Compliments of Congratulation upon that Occasion. At the same Time your Excellency will do me Justice, if you believe I laid these my new Honours at your Feet as soon as they were conferred on me. But notwithstanding at this Time I am to discharge my Duty by this Letter. From the Regard I formerly professed for your Excellency when in *Flanders*, you may judge how desirous I am of

of embracing all Occasions to serve you in *Italy*, and particularly at the Court of *Rome*. Amidst the Joy your Excellency is so good to be sensible of for my Prosperity, I cannot do otherwise than feel a real Satisfaction for yours, with Regard to your personal Interest, as also for that which is more immediately relative to the publick Good. The Catholick Cause more especially, has owed its Prosperity to your Bravery in *Germany*, and it is a Question, whether you signalized your Valour most, by sustaining the Miseries and Dangers of the War at *Vienna*, or whether your good Conduct was not chiefly conspicuous in the Reduction and taking of *Prague*. I wish your Excellency all Happiness,

Paris, February
12, 1621.

and am, &c.

L E T T E R LXXIII.

To his Eminency Cardinal Valerio, at Rome.

YOU was, Sir, (I find) created a Cardinal at the same Time that I was; it was very agreeable to me, that in our Advancement we should keep Pace with each other,

other, there having always been (even during the Time of our Studies at *Padua*) a mutual liking between us, which has ever since continued; particularly so, since our being concerned together in publick Affairs. So that you may the more easily conceive the Pleasure I take in your Promotion, and that henceforward, I can have no higher Ambition than to make my new Dignities subservient to you. But sorrowful News is this which imbitters our Joys, and obliges us to comply with all the Rules of Sadness: By the Death of his Holiness, Pope *Paul V.* of blessed Memory, which Advice reached this Place eight Days after the Account of our Promotion. So that I prepared to set out immediately for *Italy*, though the Severity of the Season, and the Weakness of my Constitution, does not permit me to hope for so speedy a Journey to *Rome* as I could wish. And God knows, but this Letter may find you out of the Conclave, with the new Pope already elected. Oh! how much am I afflicted with you, for having immediately lost so good a Benefactor; although for some Months past our Advices from *Rome*, described him to be quite in a declining Condition, and you may believe me, that I, for my Part doubted, that the first Courier which arrived at *Paris*, was the Messenger of his Death, instead of our Preferment. These are the usual Scenes of this World, the most disastrous are those which

which happen most frequently. I should have been already set out, if his Majesty had not desired me to receive the Hat from his own Hands, and To-morrow will arrive the Person who brings it. If I should not reach *Rome* soon enough to be at the Election of a new Pope, (which I very much question) yet I pray God we may have such a one, as is most to be desired for the particular Service of the apostolical See, and for Christianity in general; for in regard to this, you will not doubt my Vote and Sentiments unite with yours.

Paris, February
28, 1621.

I am, &c.

L E T T E R LXXIV.

To his Holiness Gregory XV.

AS one of my chief Pleasures upon my Arrival in *France*, was the hearing that your Holiness was then made a Cardinal; so I could not be sensible of a higher Satisfaction upon my Return to *Italy*, than that News occasioned, by your Holiness being exalted to the Degree of Pontifical Majesty.

I received the Account of it near *Lyons*, and immediately returned Thanks to God, that it had pleased him to direct the sacred College to so worthy a Choice ; at which, though I could not attend in Person. I have nevertheless, not failed to interest myself in the most affectionate and zealous Manner. I thought it requisite, that this Letter should be the Fore-runner of those dutiful Respects, which I am soon to pay to your Holiness for this your high Exaltation, beseeching God that you may for many Years enjoy it, as for the Good of the Church it was by every one fervently desired. But I ought not to conclude this without first informing your Holiness, that I left his most Christian Majesty, with such true Notions of Piety and Religion, so full of Duty and Obedience to the holy See, and so inclined to the publick Good of Christianity in general, that nothing can render him more worthy the Title he bears, or of the royal Virtues that accompany his Dignity. But of this I will give your Holiness a more particular Account by Word of Mouth, as likewise of the Condition in which I have left the Affairs of this Kingdom in general. I kiss your holy Feet, and am, with profound Humility, &c.

Lyons, March
8, 1621.

LETTER

L E T T E R LXXV.

*To Mr. Mutio Ricerio, Secretary to the holy
College, at Rome.*

A DIEU *Mutio*, though but for a short Time only, for here I am returning back to *Italy*, arrived at *Turin*, and through the divine Protection, happily passed the *Alps* for the fourth Time of crossing them in each Season of the Year. First in Summer, by the Way of *Switzerland*, going to my Nunciature in *Flanders*; then again in the Winter, by the Way of *Germany*; returning from thence, the third Time in the Autumn, by *Savoy*, when I was sent Nuncio to the Court of *France*; and now in the Spring by *Savoy*, in my Return from thence. From *Lyons* to this Place, I began to enjoy the Spring, which has since accompanied me through the *Alps* with Roads agreeable, and Sky serene, except at Mount *Cenis*, which I found covered with Snow, with its Summit all Winter, as was suitable to the Father of the *Alpine* Family. But the fourth Time is sufficient, I am satisfied with *Alps*, and so tired with travelling, as is impossible to express. My Departure from *France* was unexpected, as was the Occasion of it; viz. the Death of Pope *Paul V.* of blessed Memory. So little Time elapsed
between

between my Promotion and his Death, and then the Necessity of my setting out upon his Demise ; to which may be added, the continual Agitation of Mind and Body, occasioned by these Events, that I remain astonished ! and can scarce tell whether I am in *Italy* or *France* ; Cardinal or Nuncio ; with Pope *Paul* yet living, or with his Successor. I heard of his being chose some Day's Journey from *Paris*. They certainly could not have made a better Choice, and have testified the unanimous Consent of the sacred College, by the Conclave being opened almost as soon as it was shut, so that you have had little to do in your Office ; and but a short Time to remain confined in so noble a Prison. But to return to myself and my Journey ; as far as *Lyons* I performed it in a Litter, Part of the *Alps* I passed in the same Vehicle, and Part in a Chair upon the callous Shoulders of those human Goats, called *Maroni*. I took Leave of the Court of *France*, and received all the Marks of Esteem and Respect, it was possible to desire : Likewise here at *Turin*, I have met with a most gracious Reception from the serene Princes. A little before I arrived here, there went from this Place his Eminency Cardinal *de Surdis*, who is going to *Rome*. And in two Days (God willing) I shall set out with the greatest Impatience, to arrive at that Court as soon as possible. In the mean Time, this Letter is a Pledge of my Affection,

which

which is a Forerunner of our Meeting. Ascend to the highest Part of my Palace *Monte Cavallo*, and with one of my Spying-Glasses see me arrive, and immediately come to meet me. I received yours which prophesied my Promotion, but no Letter to congratulate me upon that Occasion: Perhaps, it will have reached *Paris* after I left it. I also had the Account concerning what happened in *Poland*. But of this and a thousand other Occurrences when we meet, and I may see and know you for my *Mutio*, and you cannot deny yourself being such, as Secretary to the sacred College, of which I am now a Member, though I cannot be satisfied that you should be mine in that Sense only, for I wish you wholly mine, as you ought to be, for I am entirely yours, and wish you every real Contentment, &c.

Turin, March

20, 1621.

F I N I S.

K LETTERS

LETTERS

WRITTEN BY THE

Cardinal BENTIVOGLIO

TO THE

DUKE of MONTELEONE,

During the Time he was Nuncio at the Court
of *France* ; the Duke then in *Spain*.

LETTERS

CLARENCE BENTLEY

TO THE

DUKE OF WINDSOR

THE DUKE OF WINDSOR
OF WINDSOR

Some Account of the Duke of *Monteleone*, and the Occasion of writing the following Letters.

THIS Duke was Don *Hector Pignatello*, one of the principal Noblemen of the Kingdom of *Naples*; who went into *Spain* to take the Title of Grandee. His first Employment was under his most Catholick Majesty King *Philip III.* as Vice-Roy of *Catalonia*; which Character he bore several Years, and so faithfully discharged the Duties of that high Dignity as to give entire Satisfaction and acquire universal Applause of his Conduct. Being afterwards made Grandee, he was appointed to attend into *France* the Infanta *Anna* his Majesty's eldest Daughter, who was married to the most Christian King, *Lewis XIII.* The Duke resided at that Court for more than two Years, as Ambassador extraordinary from his most Catholick Majesty. During his Residence there, he had so many Marks of Respect and Confidence shewn him, as is hardly ever paid to any foreign publick Minister: Nevertheless, these Honours were not equal to his Merit, being endowed with such great Virtues, Moral,

Civil, and Christian. When he returned into *Spain*, his Majesty with the unanimous Approbation of his Court, immediately appointed him one of his Counsellors of State; that is to say, he was initiated into the Mysteries of Government; where while by his Merit he was aspiring to new Honours, Death in a short Time overtook him, leaving such a thorough Sense of his Worth in *Spain*, as equalled all he could expect from his native *Italy*. At the Time of the Duke's Residence in *France*, Cardinal *Bentivoglio* was Nuncio there from the apostolical See; and from the Transaction of publick Affairs between them they entered into an intimate Correspondence, which was continued by Letter, by express Order from the Court of *Rome*, and with the Approbation of the *French* Ministers themselves; who by this Means, hoped a right Intelligence might be kept up between the two Courts. The following Letters were wrote to the Duke, by Cardinal *Bentivoglio*, to the Time of his Promotion to a Hat; after which, he set out for *Rome*, upon the Demise of Pope *Paul V.* of blessed Memory.

LETTERS

L E T T E R S

WRITTEN BY THE

Cardinal BENTIVOGLIO

TO THE

DUKE of MONTELEONE,

During the Time he was Nuncio at the
Court of *France* ; the Duke then in *Spain*.

L E T T E R I.

To the Duke de Monteleone, at Brussels.

PERHAPS this will arrive sooner than
your Excellency ; could I be there
myself in Person, how great would be
my Satisfaction, to enjoy the Pleasures of that
Court for a few Days, and the Opportunity
of serving you. But I am in a publick Cha-
racter, that is to say, confined here ; and for

the present at least, deprived of all Hopes of exchanging *Paris* for *Brussels*. I had the Letter your Excellency favoured me with from *Villecuray*, and by that the Account of the Arrival of Don *Fernando Girone*, and that through your Means, he is already possessed of his Employment. Upon his Arrival here, I immediately paid him a Visit, and found him perfectly well versed in the Affairs of this Kingdom, agreeable to your Relation of him, and my Expectation concerning him; we were intimately acquainted in *Flanders*, and I always had a high Opinion of his Merit, Prudence and Valour; so that adding to private Considerations those of the publick, your Excellency may assure yourself, I shall use my utmost Endeavours to serve him here, as the present State of Things is of a higher Nature than formerly. I am sorry he has taken a House so distant from mine, it is out of the Gate *St. Honorè*; that is to say, at the contrary End of *Paris*; it is true, the Fatigue is the Horses. We have here nothing new, but the sudden Arrival of the Duke de *Guise*, who came here the Day before Yesterday, and To-day did me the Honour of a Visit. As yet he has not acquainted me with the Occasion of his Journey, being desirous first to see the King, and for this Reason, To-morrow is to have an Audience of his Majesty. As to the Affairs relative to the Queen Mother, hitherto they have gone on

suc-

successfully ; which manifests the great Abilities of Father *Arnulfo*. We shall see the Event. I have nothing more material to add to your Excellency, but that after a short Tour at *Brussels*, you may soon find yourself in *Spain*, as your Heart and Thoughts are already there. The Duke *de Guise* tells me, our new Nuncio from *Spain* disembarked at *Marseilles*, and was to perform the Remainder of his Journey through *Avignon* by Land, so that it is possible your Excellency will not meet Mr. *Caetano* at *Madrid*. How extreamly concerned am I to lose the Correspondence of so eminent a Prelate, not less renowned for his Virtues, than for Nobleness of Blood. In a Correspondence of twelve Years, which elapsed during our Management of publick Affairs, his Letters served me for Instruction; so much was to be learnt from the Sublimity of his Style and consummate Judgment. I am your Excellency's

Paris, October

4, 1618.

Most obedient, &c.

LETTER

L E T T E R II.

To the same, at Madrid.

STILL to this Hour my Wishes and even my Sight deceives me, in making me imagine your Excellency has not yet quitted this Court; the House you lived in, when I pass by that Way, still seems inhabited by you. *Paris* without you, is no more like the same Place. I am at last forced to be convinced you have left it, and that instead of being amongst us, you have carried *France* with you; that is to say, the Hearts of the People. And if the Hearts of the *French* attend you, what are you to think of mine that is *Italian*, and attached to you by so many Favours! A greater, your Excellency could not have conferred on me, than by giving me an Account of your safe Arrival at *Blois*, and of the gracious Reception you met with from the Queen Mother at that Place. I am infinitely obliged to you for this Intelligence, and from so good a Beginning of your Journey I form to myself the Hope of a happy Conclusion. The Cardinal of *Savoy* has lately made the Proposal of Marriage to the King; and now Mr. *de Fargis* is dispatched to give Advice thereof to his most Catholick Majesty. Before he set out he paid me a Visit, and by him

him I answer your Excellency's Favour as he is in haste, so my Letter must be hasty ; that is to say, short. May you happily pass the *Pyraean* Mountains, and not with the Sight of *France* lose the Remembrance of all *French* Objects ; but above all things, don't forget with what a particular Regard my best Wishes attend you.

Paris, November
20, 1618.

I am, &c.

L E T T E R III.

To the same, at Madrid.

HERE I am amidst new Disturbances, and God grant they prove not the greatest *France* has seen for some time. The Queen Mother has not been able to contain herself any longer within the Limits of Patience ; so that the 22d in the Night her Majesty suddenly quitted *Blois*, the Duke d' *Epernon* attending to carry her off. The Method of her Flight is related as follows : Towards the Middle of the Night her Majesty descended from a Window of the Castle, and being got out of the City, found a Coach together with a hundred Horse. About a
League

League from thence she joined *d' Epernon* who waited for her with three hundred Horse more. Your Excellency may easily figure to yourself, what great Perplexity this occasioned at Court. The King immediately came from *St. Germain's*, where he was with his Court, and this Event has wholly employed the Attention of the Council; which hitherto seem unanimously bent upon War, and that the King in Person must take the Field. Already Schemes are proposed for raising Money and Soldiers, that his Majesty may set out as soon as possible, in order to suppress this growing Evil, which is nevertheless, not supposed to be in Embrio, but already come to its full Birth. Since it is certainly believed, that this is a Preparation of the utmost Consequence, and that other principal Noblemen of the Kingdom are concerned in the Plot with *d' Epernon*. As your Excellency may imagine, the Favourites find themselves greatly astonished; since in short, from that Quarter the Mischief arises, and there the Remedy is necessary. It is certain, they might take a better Method with the Chiefs in general; and particularly with the Queen, who believing herself amused with Promises, and fearing to be reduced to worse Terms, has suffered herself to proceed to Extremities. Nevertheless, the King some Days since by *Mr. de Fargis*, who is lately returned from *Spain*, assured the Queen that he would see her,

her, and it is reckoned certain, he would have done so before the End of Lent. Yet these Hopes were not sufficient to remove all Suspicions ; and now the Evil is become so heavy, that it will be difficult to apply a gentle Medicine with any Effect. The Queen carried with her of her Attendants only the *Italian Women*, and two *French Domesticks*. *Epernon* accompanied her Majesty to *Soches*, a Place where he is Governor, and it is imagined by this time, the Queen will be retired somewhere towards *Angoulême*, or *Santonze*, which are under his Government, and two strong Places. At this Place were celebrated the Nuptials of Madame with the Prince of *Piedmont*, who arrived here Post at the End of the Carnival, accompanied by Prince *Thomas* his Brother. The Carnival concluded with two magnificent Balls ; the one given by the King, and the other by the Queen ; and both were very brilliant. I write in Haste by a Courier, dispatched from hence by the *Spanish* Embassador ; so that after returning your Excellency Thanks for your obliging Letter of the 24th *Ult.* with affectionate Respect,

Paris, February
25, 1619.

I am, &c.

LETTER

L E T T E R IV.

To the same, at Madrid.

I Am indebted to your Excellency for a Letter, brought me by the last Courier from *Spain*, which gave me as usual, infinite Pleasure, having in that an Account of your Health, and also fresh Assurances of your Regard for me. From a Multiplicity of Affairs, for several Days I have not been at Leisure to write to your Excellency, nor are Occasions of Employment wanting. Already you will have been informed, of all that has happened here since the Queen Mother went from *Blois*. Her Majesty is now at *Angoulême*, to which Place the King has dispatched Monsieur *Bethune*, to adjust and settle Things to her Satisfaction. For the same Purpose is likewise sent thither, Father *Berulles*, General of the Order of regular Priests, belonging to this Kingdom. As yet the Queen will not unbofom herself any otherwise, than by lamentable Complaints, and talks more of the Disease, than applying a proper Remedy ; the Wound is angered, therefore no Wonder if all Applications are most sensibly felt. But it is to be hoped, that in this Case, Nature is the best Physician ; that is to say, the natural Affection of a Mother, with the same filial

Regard

Regard due from the Child to the Parent. But as on the King's Part, they continue greatly to augment the Army, it may give Birth to many and great Troubles, though the first Warmth of Passion is something abated, since his Majesty was resolved to head his Army himself; and it is now believed, he will not leave *Paris*, nor abandon this Place which is of too much Consequence. The principal Forces are destined for *Guienne* and *Champaigne*, calculating that in each of these Places will be formed an Army of fifteen thousand Foot, and two hundred and fifty Horse. The King's Resentment is chiefly against the Duke *d'Epemon*; and the Queen's against Monsieur *de Luines*. But when the Chiefs are united, one may naturally hope a Reconciliation will ensue, betwixt all other Parties concerned in the Quarrel. To this End, I have done all the good Offices in my Power with the King, and by the Means of Father *Berulles*, have interposed equally in the Affair with the Queen. I have talked to Monsieur *de Luines* as a Friend upon the Subject, and as Nuncio, have endeavoured to convince him, that no one is more particularly interested than himself in this Reconciliation, which every one ought to wish for between the King and Queen: I found him well-disposed, but withal inclined to great Diffidence and Jealousy; nor is it to be doubted, but that this is the peccant Humour, which
must

must be rooted out to render the Disease curable, and there are not wanting those, who instead of Medicine, administer Poison. And as your Excellency may imagine, the natural Disposition of the People (so prone to change) has no small Influence in this Business. But you are out of these Disturbances, and sweet are your Slumbers. I know not what friendly Genius it was, that so suddenly ravished you away from hence. The Hour for Leave to retire, you thought slow in its Approach; and still more tedious you thought the Courier who brought those Dispatches. Does not your Excellency remember the Observation you then made? that this Place better than any other, teaches us to know the World; and so it is! if this so large and magnificent Kingdom, is so often afflicted with Calamities, and such frequent Revolutions, what Estimate ought we to make of earthly Happiness! To-day is *Ash-Wednesday*, and this a Reflection suitable to the Day. The Prince of *Conde* is greatly indisposed, agitated by a thousand Hopes and Fears, either of gaining his Liberty or not; it is possible these Anxieties of the Mind may occasion his Illness, from which, it is nevertheless believed his Youth will extricate him. The Queen now reigning, is in perfect Health, and conducts herself extremely well. I often ask her what the Dauphin is doing? and now that your Majesty is a Wife, when will you become a Mother.

Mother. She blushes, smiles, and is silent ; but without Banter, already they begin to talk of her Pregnancy. A thousand other Things relating to the Occurrences of this Place, your Excellency will be advised of by other Hands.

Paris, March
27, 1619.

I am, &c.

L E T T E R V.

To the same, at Madrid.

AS I am continually wishing for an Opportunity to write to your Excellency, so I cannot omit this Occasion which offers, of a *Spanish* Courier passing through this Place in his Way from *Flanders*. With Regard to Affairs relating to the Queen Mother ; we are here seeking out Methods to bring them to a happy Conclusion. To this Effect there went from hence last Week, the Cardinal *Rocheffoucault* to give her Majesty a Meeting, in the Name of the King ; and for the same Cause Father *Berulle*, lately arrived at *Paris*, is gone back again to *Angoulême*. The King is desirous to see the Queen, and here they seem inclined to an Agreement, which in Fact

L

con-

consists in their Majesties living together. I, who on my Part, interposed my zealous Endeavours, and was one of those who solicited the Cardinal's being sent, am convinced of the King's good Intentions. But the Queen cannot resolve to trust them, nor from the most sensible Jealousy, pass all at once to the greatest Security and Confidence. Yet, notwithstanding these Obstacles, the Cardinal is gone, and admitting an entire Reconciliation is not to be effected, something must be thought of, to mitigate and soften the Matter; which Expedient will be as People conjecture, the giving the Queen some little Government, with some strong Place, where she may maintain herself in Security. On the King's Part, all Occasions of War are most carefully avoided, and we ought to hope, that the same Designs influence the Queen; yet some Incitements to Arms have happened in the *Limosin*, but that of so little Moment, as will not, it is thought, be attended with any very fatal Consequences. I beseech almighty God, that all Things, as well as the Affairs of *Bohemia*, may be soon adjusted, and the Empire adorned with a worthy Successor. This Monarch shews a general Goodwill, not only to the Catholick Cause in *Germany*, but to King *Ferdinand* in particular, which he has already declared to him, as likewise to his most Catholick Majesty. Something more is expected from the profound Silence

lence the *Spaniards* observe, during the Com-motions in *France*. Such are the usual Jealousies which keep up perpetual Enmity between these two Crowns, even when they are seemingly enjoying the utmost Peace and Tranquility together. The Prince of *Conde* was in great Danger, then grew better, and is now upon the Recovery. His Majesty wrote to him with his own Hand, exhorting him to pursue all proper Methods for a speedy Cure, telling him at the same Time, to hope for his Liberty, and sent him back his Sword, which was taken from him when he was carried to Prison. Your Excellency will continue to me the usual Place I had in your Esteem, whilst

Paris, April
7, 1619.

I am, &c.

L E T T E R VI.

To the same, at Madrid.

THE last Courier brought me no Ad-vices from your Excellency, nor have I much to write to you by this Express. Fa-ther *Berulle* is lately arrived here, sent by his Eminency Cardinal *Roche-foucault*, and has

given the King to understand, that at this Time the Queen his Mother thinks it most advisable to retire to some Government, where she may preserve herself in Peace and Quietness. The Government offered to her, is that of *Anjou*, with the City and Citadel of *Angers*, besides two other adjacent Places; the one called the *Pont de Sey*, situated upon the River *Loire*, and the other *Chinon*, upon a River which discharges itself into the *Loire*. The Queen was solicitous to have had likewise *Amboise*, or *Nantes*; but the King did not think proper to acquiesce to such a Demand. Father *Berulle* set out Yesterday for *Angoulême*, with these his Majesty's final Resolutions; who in the mean while, resolves to go to *Orleans*, there to wait the ultimate Determinations of the Queen, and to take such Council as the Nature of the Affair may require. I believe the Queen will rest satisfied with the first Offer, and place her chief Security in the Heart of her Son; nor indeed should the King be desirous of any other Union, preferable to that of Nature. From *Orleans* will be notified to the publick Ministers, what is required of them. I, for my Part, pray God to remove all Occasions for travelling to and fro; that so far Things may change for the better, as amidst the general Tranquility we ourselves may enjoy some Repose. For some Days past, Don *Ferdinand Cirone* has been dangerously ill; he

he is now better; though he is not yet entirely free from his Fever. I have been lately at *St. Germain's*, where I found the Queen in perfect Health. Perhaps this Letter will find your Excellency on your Journey to *Portugal*; whether fixed or moving, my Wishes for your Prosperity always attend you with their usual Zeal. For, with Affection, Sir,

Paris, May
15, 1619.

I am, &c.

L E T T E R VII.

To the same, at Madrid.

YOUR Excellency's two last Favours of the 11th and 12th *Ult.* were both delivered to me at the same Time. And I found that Pleasure in reading of them, which best could correspond with that impatient Desire I had to receive them; for to confess the Truth, I already grew jealous upon Account of this unusual Silence. I observe your Excellency's Sentiments concerning Affairs here, altogether suitable with your singular Prudence, and also agreeable to the Opinions of the most thinking Part of this Nation. I, on my Part, acknowledge, from what Judg-

ment I could form of such an Action, as was the Escape of the Queen Mother out of the Castle of *Blois*, with all the Circumstances attending it. I am of the same Way of Thinking with yourself, and from the first of my interfering in this Matter, I counselled his Majesty to lay aside all Thoughts of War, and to chuse milder Methods. To confess the Truth, what Passions merit greater Indulgence than those a Mother feels, who sees herself deprived of that Duty and Affection, she might expect to find in a Son. Be that as it will, the almighty Being in this (as likewise upon other Occasions) has looked upon *France* with a favourable Eye. Already Things are accommodated, and Peace will ensue in a little Time. Her Majesty has thought proper to accept of the Government of *Anjou*, and the Places before mentioned, without insisting upon the Article before demanded, of having *Amboise* or *Nantes*, having likewise renounced all Claim to *Normandy*. Nevertheless, her Majesty declares, and would have every one know, that her chief Place is in the Heart and Favour of the King her Son; in which she reposes her Security and Rest. In short, she talks with all the Tenderness of a Mother, and we are to hope, will act accordingly. These are the last Advices from Court, and this the present State of Things. God grant them a happy Conclusion, which must be a Union between
Mother

Mother and Son. If a right Understanding is so highly to be wished for in private Life, how much more desirable is it when it relates to royal Personages; this gives Strength to their Dominions, their domestick Peace and Tranquility; rendering the publick Quiet more firm and lasting. But no more concerning the Affairs of this Place. I observe what your Excellency was pleased to write to me relating to *Spain*: I really thought you would have attended his most Catholick Majesty into *Portugal*; and as you remarked, suppose something of Consequence detained you at *Madrid*. All the Letters from your Parts are full of bad Omens to the Marquis of *Settichiese*. But is it possible almost three Millions of Gold, such an immense Ocean of Treasure, imbezzled! notwithstanding which, what Homage is paid to this Idol of Fortune? and yet he has been no more than barely the Reverberation of it. Clouds are gathering over *Germany*, at last they must come to Arms. Already the Forces from *Flanders*, by what we hear, have began to pass the *Rhine*, and if they meet with no Opposition, they will be a strong Reinforcement to King *Ferdinand*. I sincerely remain, &c.

Paris, May
28, 1619.

L E T T E R VIII.

To the same, at Madrid.

YOUR Excellency must have Patience with me, and permit me to complain of these excessive Heats! Oh what cruel Heat! which to say Truth has converted the Climate of *France*, to that of *Spain*; and *Tours* into *Seville*. If you have suffered the same in Proportion where you are, I heartily pity you. Ours has been so much the more insupportable, as the former Part of the Summer rather resembled the Spring. *July* was temperate as *April*, but the Month of *August* is not to be endured, one can neither sleep by Nights, nor rest by Days; but is obliged to turn Night into Day. The Day before Yesterday the Master of the Horse came to pay me a Visit at the Abbey of *Marmotier*, where I lodge, exactly as it was dark; and Yesterday the Duke of *Guise*, when it was scarce Day. But these Extreems will not last, for as your Excellency well knows, all Passions here (even those of the Elements) are transient and fugitive: But enough of this, now to discourse of other Matters. I am now at *Tours*, the Court being here; and with Regard to publick Affairs, all are centered at present in those which concern the Queen Mother;

Mother; but we may soon hope to see them happily concluded, to the Satisfaction of all honest Men. Already her Majesty is resolved to give the King a Meeting here at *Tours*, a Work chiefly owing to the Prince of *Piedmont* going to *Angoulême*. The Duke of *Monbafone* has since been twice sent thither by the King, to demonstrate plainly to the Queen the good Intentions of Monsieur *de Luines*, his Son-in-Law; so that in short, her Majesty has determined to throw aside all Fears and come to the King. According to the different Passions and Prejudices of People, such have been their Council, nor are there wanting those, who even at this Time advise her not to trust herself. Indeed I was one of that Number, who were most earnest in persuading her Majesty to come here, and that through Father *Joseph*, a Capuchin Fryer, who went not many Days since to *Angoulême*. I writ to the Queen, and caused it frankly to be told her Majesty, that she ought not to harbour any Doubts, nor delay it longer, for that I had the strongest Reason imaginable to assure her Majesty, that Things here could not be better disposed, nor have a more promising Appearance. I had the Honour of a most obliging Letter from her Majesty, in which she was pleased to approve of my Advice, as also of the Freedom with which I applied it; and really to say the Truth, no Body discerned the Hearts of
the

the King and Monsieur *de Luines*, better than myself. We expect her soon here, and were it possible to have their Interview happen upon *St. Lewis's* Day, it were to be wished to render that Day (already so prosperous to *France*) still more conspicuous. Great Advantages are expected from this Reconciliation, as from Discords, terrible Mischiefs were to be apprehended ; and more especially at this Time. The *Hugonots* being to meet this Month, who came with wicked Intentions, which nothing can sooner facilitate, than the Continuation of Disagreements in the royal Family. In this Condition then are Affairs relating to her Majesty. And *Tours* shall be as remarkable to future Times for her Arrival upon this Occasion, as *Blois* will be memorable for her Escape not many Months ago. In my Journey to the Court, I saw at *Blois* the Window which she descended from at Midnight, as likewise the rest of that Castle, which seems destined to be the Scene of all the most tragical Incidents remarkable in *France*. I in a particular Manner took Notice of that Chamber in the royal Apartments, where was murdered the Duke of *Guise*, at the Meeting of the States in the Time of *Henry III*. Here, said they, he received the first Blow, upon this very Spot ; here his Sword was half unsheathed, and here they killed him ; and here, in this Place stood concealed the King to see him die.

But

But my Horror was greater upon viewing the Place ; where the Day after the Cardinal his Brother was cruelly put to Death by Blows with Halbards. I also saw the Room, where was imprisoned at the same Time Cardinal *Bourbon*; and lastly that, where within eight Days after, died of a broken Heart, Queen *Catherine*, oppressed to the highest Degree of Sorrow, for so sad an Event, and for the more dreadful Consequences which she foretold when near expiring. I attentively considered those animated Walls as breathing the Miseries of Crowns, in the Midst of their seeming Happiness. But let us return to *Tours*, and this most delightful Country, which may be justly named the *Arcadia* of *France* ; there wanting nothing but some celebrated *French* Poet to describe it, and if not the *Arcadia*, is properly called the Garden of this Kingdom ; so smoothly glides that lovely River called the *Loire*, so delightful are its Banks, so abounding with Fruits, and a Variety of pleasing Prospects. But what does your Excellency think of the Situation of *Tours* ? with its opposite Suburbs ; where is to be seen this famous Monastery of *Marmurier*. What do you think of those little Islands ? which form a Bridge by Nature, joined to that made by Art ; by which one passes the River to enter the City : And what do you think of so many Trees which spring
up

up amidst the Buildings, in that Part of the Town which forms the Suburbs and Islands, which here and there unite, all contributing to make a most heavenly Scene. But your Excellency (when at *Tours*) observed these Things perhaps better than I. Nevertheless I was willing to renew them to your Memory, and with it the Pleasures arising from such agreeable Reflections. And this suffices with regard to Things here. The Progress of Count *Bucoy* (since the Reinforcement sent him from *Flanders*) is daily aggrandized. In *Frankfort* the Electors have already acknowledged *Ferdinand* as King of *Bohemia*, an Earnest to him for his future Exaltation to the Empire. Things cannot take a more favourable Turn in those Parts, for the Interest of *Ferdinand* in particular, or for the Advantage of Religion in general. I shall finish this with acknowledging the Receipt of your Excellency's Favour of the 27th *Ult.* and congratulating you upon the Promotion of the Serene Infant, third Son to his most Catholick Majesty, to a Cardinal's Hat ; an Event of great Ornament to the sacred College, and Advantage to the Church. I am, Sir, sincerely yours.

Tours, August
28, 1619.

LETTER

L E T T E R IX.

To the same, at Madrid.

AT length the excessive Heats are abated, and more properly adapted to the Climate of *France*. The Queen Mother suspended her Journey upon Account of the extreme hot Weather, and did not arrive at *Tours* till the 15th Instant. Her Entry was sufficiently magnificent. The King ordered throughout the Journey that the same Honours should be paid her as to himself in Person, and three Leagues from hence he went to meet her, attended by the whole Court; accompanied by the Queen his Consort, and his two Sisters with the rest of the Princesses, who returned with her Majesty into *Tours*. The King returning first to receive the Queen Mother here with all the Demonstrations of a most affectionate Respect. Their first Interview was extremely moving, particularly the Queen shed a Torrent of Tears. After which the requisite Satisfaction was given and received by each Party, and no one doubts but that their Hearts will be united. The new Duke of *Luines* appeared content; and between him and the Bishop of *Lusson*, a perfect and right Agreement is established. These are the two principal Engines, chiefly capable

ble of preserving a proper Harmony between the royal Personages. *Lusson* having equal Influence with the Queen, as *Luines* with the King. The great Qualities of the former are known to your Excellency; particularly in this Affair, he has shewn great Judgment, and received the due Commendations for it. The Queen Mother is at last safe in Port after being long exposed to a Variety of Storms. I have had frequent Conferences with her Majesty upon the Occasion of these Troubles, nor can I express how much my Services seemed acceptable to her, nor how sensible she is of her great Obligations to his Holiness. Now their Majesties have been here together a Fortnight, they are resolved to quit *Tours* to go elsewhere. The King and Queen Consort in two or three Days will set out for *Chartres* there to continue till they take other Resolutions. The Queen Mother will go to her Government of *Angers*; but with Intention to return to the King as soon as possible. At this Time we have nothing else here of Consequence, and you perhaps already know that King *Ferdinand* is elected Emperor; which is not of less Moment to the publick Good of *Germany* than the Reconciliation is here for the Advantage of *France*. I am, dear Sir, yours.

Tours, September
15, 1619.

LETTER

L E T T E R X.

To the same, at Madrid.

HERE I am at *Paris*, though properly speaking as a Passenger only, being come to settle some private Affairs of my own, and then to go join the Court, which from the last Account was daily expected to remove to *Fontainbleau*. At present they are afraid of a contagious Distemper; now common in *Paris*, though it is hoped the first cold Weather will entirely extinguish it. Upon my Arrival in this City I received your Excellency's last Favour, with the usual Satisfaction, which the Account of your Health and Prosperity is always accompanied with; particularly when attended with repeated Demonstrations of your Regard for me. It is certainly true, your Observation with Regard to the Cardinal Infant, that so many great and good Qualities are really seen to unite in one of such tender Years; so that the sacred College cannot complain for the Want of a Cardinal well-inclined. I have already complimented your Excellency upon that fortunate Event, and am greatly pleased to find that our Joy is reciprocal. Here is little stirring worthy your Notice. Their Majesties separated in the Manner before mentioned. The
Prince

Prince and Princess of *Savoy*, with Prince *Thomas*, set out directly for *Italy*. We have an extraordinary Piece of News from *Bohemia*, that they have chose the Elector *Palatine* for their King, though it is not yet confirmed that he has accepted that Dignity ; it is imagined he will think of it more than once before he does so. His most Christian Majesty immediately declared he could not approve of the Election, and in very strong Terms exhorted the Elector himself not to accept of it, agreeable to this he has done his Endeavours with the King of *England*. The Danger with Regard to Religion is sufficiently evident, contrary to the lawful Authority of any Prince, particularly with Regard to the Monarchs of this Kingdom, who have already *Hugonots* amongst them, so that nothing can be of more fatal Consequence to *France* than this Proceeding of *Bohemia*. Here they see it very plainly, which has induced his Majesty to interpose his Authority as I before observed ; and should Occasion require it, he will go through with it. I shall not be remiss in doing the Duties of my Office, and shall continue my Endeavours to prevent it; for if not speedily remedied it will strike too deep into the Catholick Cause. This bad News has been counter-ballanced by the Election of King *Ferdinand* to the Empire. These are the Effects of that ebbing and flowing, which influences all human Affairs !

Affairs! To-day flourishing, To-morrow declining, and from this their Mutability sufficient (one would imagine) to depreciate and lessen their Value in the Eyes of such as are Idolaters of this vile Earth. I remain your Excellency's most obedient Servant.

Paris, October
1, 1619.

L E T T E R X I.

To the same, at Madrid.

WHEN the Post set out for *Rome*, at the same Time the *Spanish* Courier went from hence, so my Dispatches are brief; nevertheless, the Contents of this Letter will render it of some Consequence. Yesterday the Prince of *Conde* was set at Liberty. The Duke *de Luines* arriving the Day before at the *Bois de Vincennes* for that Purpose, and immediately conducted him to his Majesty, now at *Chantilly*, a most delightful Place belonging to the Duke *de Montmorency*, Brother-in-Law to the Prince of *Conde*. Time will shew the Consequence of this fortunate Event, provided the Prince performs those Conditions, by which he obtained

M tained

tained his Enlargement; which were, to defend Religion, and be a loyal good Subject; all which is expected of him. Our Accounts from *Germany* are bad. The Elector *Palatine* has not only accepted of the Crown of *Bohemia*, but the *Hungarians* also, in Imitation of the *Bohemians*, have chose for their King *Barlem Gabor*, Prince of *Transilvania*; by which your Excellency may naturally conclude, the Hereticks of all Parts are united together; therefore it is of the utmost Consequence, that all true Catholicks should be upon their Guard; otherwise, this Indolence, or rather lethargick Disorder may prove fatal. I am still at *Paris*. The Court is going to *Compeigne*, a Place in *Picardy*, instead of *Fontainbleau*, as they first designed; which has by his Majesty been notified, and that his Majesty would soon draw near *Paris*; which, though it has not happened yet, nevertheless we hope the King will be within a little while at *Fontainbleau*, and perhaps he may visit *St. Germain*, the infectious Disorder being ceased, and nothing of it remaining but the Name. I received your Excellency's Letter with the usual Satisfaction, and am most respectfully yours.

Paris, October
21, 1619.

LETTER

L E T T E R XII.

To the same, at Madrid.

I Received your Excellency's Letter of the 26th *Ult.* at *Compeigne*, but from thence I had not Leisure to answer it; I therefore entreat you not to wonder at my Silence. Upon publick Business I went to *Compeigne*, and I left it at the same Time that the Court set out for *Monceaux*, and from thence to *Fontainbleau*; at which Place I paid my Respects to the Prince of *Conde*, and had the Honour of a Visit from him: We had a long Conference together, and certainly there is nothing wanting in this Prince for me to wish, either as to Zeal in Matter of Religion, or Fidelity to his King and Country; and this I can venture to assure your Excellency, that hitherto he could do nothing more, with regard to the meeting of the *Hugonots* at *Luden*. His Steadiness may perhaps be doubted, but he says, Imprisonment (with the Distresses antecedent to that) has been a good School to him. As to the Affairs of *Bohemia*, here, they cannot be better disposed than they are, to contribute all Manner of Assistance and good Offices. But you knew in these Parts, something new is ever in Embrio, or on the Point of appearing, so that not knowing what will be the

Event of the abovementioned Meeting, consequently one cannot guess where the Forces of this Monarch will be employed, for the Assistance of the Catholick Cause in *Germany*; where Affairs cannot be worse than they are. There is a general Insurrection amongst them, though hitherto, neither the Elector *Palatine* nor the Prince of *Transylvania* have accepted the Crowns offered them ; yet their Aims are evident enough, the View of one is to become possessed of *Bohemia*, as the other covets *Hungary*. May it please God to give Things a better Turn. But now to have done with publick Affairs. I return your Excellency my most hearty Thanks, being pleased to say so much in my Favour to my Lord Archbishop of *Chieti*; these Civilities and Kindnesses it is usual for you to confer, and it is common for me to receive them. With all Respect I am, Sir,

Paris, November
14, 1619.

Yours.

LETTER

L E T T E R XIII.

To the same, at Madrid.

YOUR Excellency has doubtless been sensibly affected for the Indisposition of his most Catholick Majesty ; but thank God he is already free'd from his Fever, which agreeable News Don *Ferdinand* was pleased to communicate to me the Day before Yesterday. Great has been the Danger, and great had been our Loss, (especially at this Juncture) as we are at this Time, already too much depressed with our present declining State in *Germany*, the Affairs of the Empire and of the Catholick Cause in general, being reduced to the most deplorable State imaginable. Already the Elector *Palatine* is crowned King of *Bohemia*, and it is thought in *Hungary* the Prince of *Transylvania* will follow his Example. The Emperor is retired to *Gratz*. The Archduke *Leopold* remains at *Vienna*, and Count *Bucoy* has transferred his Army beyond the *Danube* near *Vienna*, designing to prevent the *Bohemians* from passing that River, their Aim being to lay Siege to that Town. In the mean while, four thousand *Italians* and three thousand *Walloon*s are marching, sent by the King of *Spain* to the Emperor's choice Troops ; but consider-

ing the speedy Occasion for them, they will be rather late, and those too but a Handful, (comparatively speaking) the pressing Necessity being so great. How much better would it have been to have cleared *Naples* of these military People, and in time have sent them into *Germany*, which would have given the Catholicks such great Advantages? But one cannot always foresee the Danger, nor knowing it perhaps guard against it. The Assistance sent of nine thousand Foot and two thousand Horse from *Flanders*, was at that Time deemed sufficient, and most certainly one may call it a Prodigy! so suddenly has every Thing changed in Favour of the Hereticks, now it is essentially requisite to pursue other Methods, and apply for fresh Succours, both from within and without *Germany*. Your Excellency will easily suppose, his Holiness will not neglect to do all in his Power. This News came from *Rome* at the same Time that an Ambassador extraordinary arrived there from the Emperor, to treat with his Holiness upon the present State of Affairs in *Germany*. We have likewise here upon the same Occasion, another Ambassador, the Count *de Firstemberg*, sent to this Monarch from his Imperial Majesty. Your Excellency saw him (if I remember right) in your Return from *Spain* to *Flanders*. The King has ordered him to be properly accommodated, and To-day he goes to *St. Germain's* to have

an Audience of his Majesty, to explain to him the wicked, unjust Proceedings of the Hereticks of *Germany*, against the House of *Austria*, and the Catholick Religion, and to obtain from his Majesty, in the Name of the Emperor, some Assistance. It is most certain, that now they ought here to lay aside the Neutrality, and consider that the Evils, which at present afflict *Germany*, and the House of *Austria*, may one Day be the Fate of *France*; though to say Truth, neither their Endeavours, nor natural Dispositions, have hitherto seemed inclinable to a Neutrality, they being thoroughly convinced of the Advantages the *Hugonots* will have in these their Dominions, upon every Success which may possibly happen to those of their Party in *Germany*. Nevertheless, (to speak my Opinion of the Matter) excepting good Offices, I dare not flatter myself, that much is to be expected from this Quarter, considering the present State of Affairs, with regard to the Assembly of the *Hugonots* in this Kingdom; their Demands of the King having been absolutely refused; and by all the Discovery we are able to make of their Designs, their Scheme is to assemble and meet together at *Rockelle*; perhaps, to declare an open Disobedience, and breed some new Disturbances. In a Day or two I intend to go to Court, to renew those Services, which the Catholick Cause, under such terrible Circumstances! may require: It is a Cause

so united with his Imperial Majesty's, that there is no such Thing as dividing of them. It is hoped it will not be long before the Court resolves to return to *Paris*. Having nothing more to add, I shall beg Leave to conclude myself your Excellency's most obedient, &c.

Paris, December
5, 1617.

L E T T E R XIV.

To the same, at Madrid.

I Received no Letter from your Excellency by the last Courier from *Spain*, which makes me a little suspicious, that I lose Ground in your Favour; though my Pretensions to it are the same as ever. Every one with you must have been doubtless greatly alarmed at the late Indisposition of his most Catholick Majesty; but in a more particular Manner you yourself; as a better Judge of how great Service to Christianity in general, is the Life of a Prince so remarkable for Religion and Virtue; here the same Sense of his Goodness prevails: And the Account of his Recovery was received with great Joy. Her
most

Christian Majesty his Daughter, was very much afflicted at the first bad News ; and at the same Time the Hopes of her Pregnancy vanished, till then believed certain. In short, from these disagreeable Incidents, her Concern has been so great as to occasion a Fever, which has confined her Majesty to her Bed two or three Days. But now, God be thanked, she is in fair Way of Recovery. As to the rest, the *Hugonots* remain obstinate in persisting, that the King shall give them Satisfaction. On the other Hand, his Majesty is more than ever strenuous that they shall separate. Thus the Negotiation of Count *Firs-temberg* has met with a disagreeable Obstacle. It is allowed by all here, to be extremely difficult for the King (at least for the present) to make a publick Declaration that he will assist the Emperor, and engage to extinguish foreign Feuds, while he has Cause to apprehend domestick Disturbances. I have several Times interposed my good Offices with the King and his Ministry, they are sensible of the manifest Danger *Germany* is in, that *France*, as an adjacent Country, is in the utmost Hazard. Examples are still recent in every one's Memory, of the Assistance the Hereticks of these Parts, received from those yonder ; and of the universal Conspiracy carried on by the Hereticks against the Catholicks ; and to say the Truth, they are desirous, that
this

this Crown should openly declare in Favour of the Catholick Cause in *Germany*. With all this, how, or which Way to protect them, is not clear. For your Excellency will easily imagine, that besides the Difficulties to encounter with here, great and vehement Oppositions will happen from without. *England* (though not openly) espouses their Interests: *Holland* the same, together with the rest of the heretical Faction; nor are others wanting, who privately do all Sorts of ill Offices. Here the *Palatine* Faction is powerful, great are the Arts used, to stifle and suppress the good Inclinations discovered in these Parts; but above all, they endeavour to make it appear, that these Animosities take their Rise from political, not religious Causes, as if the contrary was not manifest to every one, each Day furnishing fresh Violences against the Church. Moreover the Designs, long since projected by the Heretics, of taking the Kingdom of *Bohemia* from the House of *Austria*, for the obtaining another Electoral Vote, in Hopes of placing one Day or other, a Protestant at the Head of the Empire, are evident. But these Subtleties are well known; besides, when was it ever seen to be otherwise, but that the Hereticks to serve their own Ends, jumbled together Matters of State and Religion, and it is then they imagine themselves most triumphant, when they have oppressed and destroyed Religion, under Colour of political Views.

Many

Many are the Instances too tedious to enumerate, so that it is not to be doubted, but that the present Troubles in *Germany*, are in a great Measure owing to Religion ; but it is remarkable that the Rebellion of the *Hugonots* here, has been chiefly fomented by the *Palatine* Family, a Family which has ever threatened this Monarchy with the greatest Mischiefs; so that the Increase of that House must be prevented if possible: As also their acquiring additional Dominions, because they may one Day perhaps succeed to the Crown of *England*, which might endanger *France*. On the other Hand, who can deny but that the House of *Austria*, is the principal Support of the Catholick Religion in *Germany*, and it is plain from many Reasons, the House of *Austria* cannot give much Cause of Jealousy to this Kingdom. This with several other prevailing Arguments I made use of, to induce the King and his Ministry, to declare openly for *Germany*; and I hope (when the Situation of their Affairs is such as to permit of it) they will take a right Resolution. The Embassador of his Imperial Majesty, entertains the same favourable Opinion, after having been admitted to several Audiences of the King, and having had several private Conferences with his Ministers, he will soon see what Effect they will produce. In the mean Time, the Court expects here the Day after To-morrow a Creation of Knights of the

the Order of the Holy Ghost. They say there cannot be a finer Ceremony, all who are in publick Characters are required to attend; and this Instant is gone from hence Mr. *Bonulio*, who came to give me an Invitation, in the Name of his Majesty. I am, dear Sir, most respectfully yours.

Paris, December
30, 1619.

L E T T E R X V.

To the same, at Madrid.

GOD be thanked! after many severe Contests, we are at last the Conquerors; for this Prince has resolved he will assist the Emperor and the Catholicks in *Germany*; and to this Purpose, he will send a powerful Army. The same has been notified to me by the Ministry, as also to the other Embassadors now residing here. And Yesterday went from hence the Imperial Minister for *Flanders*, with these Dispatches. Now what will your Excellency say? have I not frequently in my foregoing Letters remarked, that in a Case of this Nature, they would not regard the Neutrality! And this
might

might certainly be expected from them, as they conducted themselves so well, with regard to that important Event relating to the Imperial Dignity : That with it the Emperor might amply enjoy all suitable Honours and Advantages, without the Assistance of the hereditary Estates ; what could have been done ! a better Resolution than this could not have been taken. Notwithstanding, I imagine your Excellency is doubtful, that it will not be carried into Execution ; and indeed to say the Truth, I have my Fears upon the same Account ; as it is not to be questioned but that the Hereticks and their Emissaries will use all their Efforts, to throw Obstacles in the Way. How many Accidents may intervene here to frustrate our Schemes, and render them abortive ; especially at this Juncture when the *Hugonots* are assembled, who artfully increase the Suspicion of an Insurrection in *France*, to prevent sending the necessary Succours into *Germany*. But the Almighty ! who has hitherto interfered in this, will doubtless continue to do so effectually, as it his Cause we are defending, and for the Preservation of his Church, in a more particular Manner is this Assistance required, and to that Use chiefly dedicated. On the other Hand, can there be a more unjust Cause than that of the Elector *Palatine*, and his Behaviour shews it ; for he courted the *Bobemians* at the very Time their Deputies were not admitted by
the

the Electoral College at *Frankfort*, and consequently when King *Ferdinand* was acknowledged King of *Bohemia*, and he conspired at the same Time against the King, that he himself, with the other Electors, was raising to the Imperial Dignity : Finally, after having taking the usual Oath of Allegiance, he immediately took up Arms against him, becoming King of the Rebels against his Majesty, nay he himself becoming a Rebel to his supreme Head, and to the supreme Head of the whole Empire. But as to the Supply of Troops, and who is to command them, *Guise*, *Nevers*, and (antecedent to either of these) *Vendome* was talked of, but when the necessary Reinforcements are ready, Generals to head them will not be wanting. In Truth I am grieved at the troubled State of Things here, and the Disposition they are in of becoming each Day more so. The Meetings of the *Hugonots* perplex the Disaffected, numerous enough both within and without the Court ; and what is yet worse, the Queen Mother absents herself. Clouds are gathering, big with impending Mischief. Concerning our Affairs, I have nothing more to add. The Queen is greatly recovered, and from her Majesty I had the same Account of her Father's Health, as your Excellency now writes to me, that his Recovery is rather slow. The Queen is apprehensive his Illness will turn to an intermitting Fever. The Ceremonies of the
Knights

(175)

Knights was very fine, and performed with great Magnificence, With all imaginable Respect,

Paris, January
17, 1620.

I am, Sir, &c.

L E T T E R XVI.

To the same, at Madrid.

AT Length we have here some little Repose. But your Excellency must have heard of the Anxiety we have been in for some Days past, on Account of the most Christian Queen's dangerous Relapse; from the Seventh to the Eleventh we were in the utmost Hazard of loosing her Majesty; then she began to mend; and now, Thanks be to almighty God, she is out of Danger. The Sorrow, the Tenderness, and the Torrent of Tears the King shed upon the Occasion, are not to be expressed; his Care not to leave her a Moment, together with the deep Concern shewed by the People in general, who offered up their Prayers during those Days her Illness increased: Which Heaven has been propitious to, in such a Manner, that we flatter

ter ourselves her Majesty will soon be restored to her former State of Health. I shall not expatiate longer upon this Subject, as I know your Excellency will have a distinct Account of it from other Hands, and shall only say, I doubted greatly for her Life, and mourned for the Misfortunes her Death would bring upon these Kingdoms, and upon Christianity in general. Where then had been our Hopes from this Interchange of Marriages? and where the Victory by us obtained, over so many hellish Plots contrived against us by the Hereticks; all had been overfet, ere well established. How had they triumphed? if Death had so soon dissolved this happy Union, by which Bonds the two Crowns were so closely united, and not only temporal, but likewise ecclesiastical Affairs benefited. But let us not converse any longer upon Mortality, but return our most hearty Thanks to almighty God, that it has pleased him to spare the Queen, beseech him long to continue that Blessing to us, and that *France* may give many Queens to *Spain*, resembling her in Virtue. A Gentleman is dispatched from hence to give his most Catholick Majesty a full Account of the Queen's present State of Health. I have stolen this Time from my extraordinary Dispatches to *Rome*, which find me full Employment, purposely to communicate this agreeable News to your
Ex-

Excellency, and to assure you how very much I am, &c.

Paris, February
13, 1620.

L E T T E R XVII.

To the same, at Madrid.

ALREADY her Majesty is so much better, that she may be pronounced in a State of certain Recovery: I had an Opportunity three Days ago of paying my Respects to her in her Chamber, and was greatly rejoiced to find her so well. To-day the King is set out for *Picardy*, being desirous of seeing the Government belonging to the Duke of *Luines*, a fresh Testimony of Regard, in Confirmation of the past, and an Earnest of still greater Favour in future. In the mean while, we shall be able to get Intelligence of what the *Hugonots* of *Loudun* design, against whom was issued out Yesterday by Order of Parliament, a Declaration of High-Treason, if they did not disperse within the Term of three Weeks. Before his Majesty left this Place he appointed two Embassadors to the

N Emperor,

Emperor, and the Princes of *Germany* ; the Duke d' *Angoûlemme*, is the principal, who in your Excellency's Time, was called Count d' *Anvergne*, but now assumes this Title upon being named Heir to the Dukes of *Angoûlemme*, who died last Year ; with him is nominated Monsieur *Bethune* and Monsieur de *Preoùx*. At the same Time they place upon the Frontiers of *Germany* a Supply of one thousand Foot and one thousand Horse. The Duke d' *Angoûlemme* is Minister to the Imperial Court, and *Bethune* is to accompany him thither ; while the other is to transact here and there, as Occasion requires ; and this Negociation is wholly designed in Favour of the Emperor and the Catholick Cause in *Germany*, if possible to settle and re-establish all Things in the same State as formerly, by the Way of Treaty. But if that is impracticable, then the Arms of *France* are to be turned against the Enemies of the Empire, and the Catholicks either by assisting in *Bohemia*, or making a Diversion against the *Palatinate*. Such is the Disposition they shew here, and to this Intent is this Embassy, Motion of the Army, &c. The *Spanish* and *Flemish* Embassadors, are not for hearkening to Treaties ; but for an immediate Declaration of War. Here they are for both, and by what I can discover, their Intentions are really good. From foreign Affairs I return to those within ourselves. Every Thing seems

seems dubious relating to the Queen Mother. To-day she will come, To-morrow she will not, so says Report. I return your Excellency infinite Thanks for that Account, you have been pleased to give me of the Ceremony of his Highness the Cardinal Infant's receiving the Hat. To say the Truth, it could not be more splendid in all Particulars. I am your Excellency's most devoted, &c.

Paris, February
28, 1626.

L E T T E R XVIII.

To the same, at Madrid.

YOUR Excellency must not, I entreat you, condemn my Silence, having been confined to my Bed a Fortnight with a Fever, and as much longer in a weak Condition; this cold moist Winter has used me ill, or to confess the Truth, I have been too careless of myself, in exposing my delicate Constitution a little too freely to the chill Night Air. But Business occasioned it, nor is it that only, for the Situation of *Paris* is such, as it is not altogether adapted to the short Days, so great

are the Distances from one Place to another. However, be that as will, I am (thank God) recovered, and now at *Melun*. As the Court is gone to *Fontainbleau*, here your Excellency's obliging Letter was delivered to me, and you may easily imagine what Pleasure it gave me. I was at Court the Day before Yesterday, and found their Majesties in perfect Health. I had a long Conference with the Queen, and afterwards was engaged in Conversation with other Princesses who were in her Majesty's Apartment. Thus I personated two different Characters, *viz.* that of Nuncio and Courtier. I am inclined to believe the late Indisposition of her most Christian Majesty, was one of the greatest Afflictions your Excellency ever met with, since without having Regard to publick Reasons, every one is sensible how much you are in a particular Manner concerned in every Thing relating to the Queen, who was deposited in your Hands, as the dearest Pledge belonging to the King her Father. By you conducted into *France*, and with Care initiated into this new Scene of Life, to the End that she might reign more in the Hearts of her Subjects, than in the Provinces of these her Dominions. But your Excellency's Care is amply rewarded, by the Regard her Majesty has for you; who, to my Knowledge, often speaks of you with all the Esteem you can wish or desire. What your Excellency wrote me, concerning the courteous Reception

tion some *French* Gentlemen (then at *Madrid*) met with from you, as an Indication of your Joy for the Queen's Recovery, I can faithfully assure you, was received here as a strong Proof of a Mind well affected to this Nation; nor is it in the least doubted, but that notwithstanding your Absence from hence, you still preserve the same anxious Desire for Harmony and Union between the two Crowns, as when you resided here; nor is it imagined you will be wanting in good Offices at the Court of *Spain*, as you so effectually employed them when in *France*. As I remarked to you I am at *Melun*, where I was scarce arrived, when I found the Court removing to *Orleans*. The Queen accompanies his Majesty. Tomorrow they go to invite the Queen Mother to come to Court, and the better to incline her to accept of the Invitation, the Duke of *Monbasone* is gone before. Various are People's Opinions, how the Queen Mother will regard such a Step, and for the most Part against this Method of Proceeding, doubting that these Advances may appear to the Queen rather as a Matter of Force, than an Invitation. The sudden Flight of the Duke *du Maine* has greatly increased the general Suspensions, and if the Queen Mother keeps longer away, these Jealousies will be still greater; so that God grant we do not fall into a Relapse, infinitely more fatal than that of last Year. Oh! *France*, ever fluctuating

and changeable! and yet this Monarchy amidst so many and such frequent Disturbances, still flourishes, and has already subsisted twelve hundred Years. Favourites seem uneasy, Favours are now at the heighth, so is Envy. Of the three Brothers, the Duke *Luines* bears almost the whole Structure of Envy, that Profusion of Favour resting with him, which as I have remarked is now in its Meridian. I was almost ready to say, that to be lasting, it should be more moderate. But to return to the Affair of this Journey to *Orleans*. We shall see what it will produce, God send it may prove fortunate, that there may not be Occasions for hurrying to and fro continually, which is a mere Torment; though such the Method of Life in *France*, where there is no Certainty of an Hour's Quiet: *à propos* to the Mutability of Things here, what says your Excellency to this Event relating to the Duke *du Maine*? who but the other Day was thought the surest Sword the King had, as likewise a Shield which the Favourites could safely rely on. Oh! that Wisdom would but descend to judge of the Affairs of this Kingdom. In regard to the Embassy sent into *Germany*, I beseech your Excellency to suspend your Opinion, till we see a little further into it. By all that I can see, with regard to the Supply, they keep their Resolution; and now the Assembly at
Loudun

Loudun has submitted, so much the more fixed and resolute ought they to be here; let us then with Patience expect the Event. I earnestly hope to be favoured with your Excellency's Commands, to whom I address this long Epistle, to which my Retirement at *Melun* has not a little contributed. To finish all, I, with affectionate Respect, am Sir, &c.

Melun, April
9, 1620.

L E T T E R XIX.

To the same, at Madrid.

WITH regard to my last long Epistle, this will scarce merit the Name of a Letter; but having wrote so fully to your Excellency from *Melun*, I have now little to add. However, I will not let this Post escape me, without sending my Dispatches as usual. All here of Novelty is, that the Queen Mother has excused herself from coming to Court; so that his Majesty made little or no Stay at *Orleans*, but returned immediately to *Fontainbleau*; and after the Holidays we expect him at *Paris*. *Du Maine*,

from *Bordeaux*, has wrote several very submissive Letters to the King, wherein he declares his Intentions, of being a more dutiful Subject than ever to his Majesty. When the Court returns, we shall have a more distinct Account how Things are with the Queen Mother.

Paris, April
16, 1620.

I am, Sir, &c.

L E T T E R XX.

To the same, at Madrid.

THE Court is arrived at *Paris*, and the Duke *Monbafone* is come from *Angers*; immediately upon his Arrival he did me the Honour of a Visit, and gives a good Account as to what concerns the Queen Mother. From him I learned that the Queen took Umbrage at the King's sudden Journey to *Orleans*. But at length her Fears were appeased, by the Assurances given her of his Majesty's good Intentions, and the happy Effects expected from that Expedition. It is now plain to me, that they in reality design to adjust and settle Affairs relating to her Majesty. We shall soon see in what Manner
and

and with what Success. How much better had it been, if after their Reconcilement at *Tours* she had not separated from the King : Then again the Prince of *Conde* was set at Liberty, whose Interests never corresponded with those of her Majesty ; so that we have fresh Difficulties to encounter with, which all contribute to render the proceeding ones yet greater. Let us now talk of the Supplies sent into *Germany*. Yesterday the Embassadors set out from hence, and the Army is already assembled on the Frontiers. But I observe they are more dilatory in sending the needful Succours, than was at first expected, or is indeed consistent with the pressing Occasion there is for them. Here they seem rather disposed to try first what may be done by Way of Treaty. And by Means of their Embassador's, gain a thorough Insight into the Affairs of *Germany*. Little is then to be expected by Way of Arms, as these Conferences will consume much Time. These Ministers are to treat with ecclesiastical Electors, as likewise with several heretical Princes, with *Bavaria*, *Saxony*, and lastly, with the Emperor. In *Germany*, Feasting and Carousing will imperceptibly steal away that Time which ought to be otherwise employed. In the mean while the Catholick League are arming themselves vigorously, we are in some Hopes and (agreeable to the last Accounts) think *Saxony* may be depended upon ; though on the
other

other Hand there is Reason to fear she will not so immediately resolve, but reserve herself to head her own *Lutheran* Faction, to make both *Calvinists* and *Lutherans* more assiduous, to bring her over to their Party; though it is remarkable that the *Lutherans* hold the *Calvinists* in greater Detestation, than they do the Roman Catholicks. May it please the supreme Being to extirpate this Monster of Heresy, so that his Church may have the Advantage in this happy Event, as it is eminent for the Uprightness of its Cause. With Respect, I am your Excellency's, &c.

Paris, May
1, 1620.

L E T T E R XXI.

To the same, at Madrid.

A Courier, who passes through this City in Haste, obliges me to be expeditious in my Dispatches. Though I cannot resist my Inclinations to give your Excellency fresh Assurances of my sincere Regard. I had no Letters from you by the last Post from *Spain*; notwithstanding, I am willing to hope you received my last, dated from *Melun*. The Court

Court is at *Paris*, and it is thought will continue here, provided no unforeseen Accident happens, which I was about to say, is rather wished for than feared ; so prevailing is the Desire of Novelty, in the natural volatile Disposition of the *French* Nation ; and indeed the tottering Condition of Affairs (with regard to the Queen Mother) forebodes some sudden Change. Yet they here seem disposed to finish it entirely ; or at least by some Means or other to compound Matters. To this End they have lately sent Monsieur *Blenville*, Master of the Wardrobe to his Majesty, and lately created Knight of the Holy Ghost, to *Angers*. The Affair is intricate, and attended with a thousand Difficulties, which may be reduced to one only of any Consequence ; namely, the rooting out that natural Diffidence, and establishing that Harmony and good Understanding, which ought to subsist between them. Their Minds are ulcerated, the Wound is inward, and Diligence must be used to effect a Cure. We are now on the Brink of the Holidays. To-day his Majesty runs at the Ring in the Place *Royale* accompanied by all the Princes, and most accomplished Noblemen of the Court. *Paris* will furnish Spectators enough to fill so spacious and fine a Theatre. The new Duke of *Digbieres* thinks of returning soon into *Dauphiny*, and has already taken leave of the Court ; he is fourscour, and on the
Eve

Eve of setting out for a longer Journey. But alas! what can he expect, especially as he is a political *Hugonot*, rather than one through Conscience; as to the rest he is not to be despised, being one of the first Men in *France* of the *Hugonots*; absolutely the first in *Dauphiny*; for in that Province he rules with absolute Power, so great is his Authority amongst them. Dear Sir, I am very sincerely yours, &c.

Paris, May
17, 1620.

L E T T E R XXII.

To the same, at Madrid.

AS I remarked to your Excellency in a former Letter, last *Sunday* his Majesty run at the Ring, with the incredible Applause of the Queen, the Ladies of her Court, and all the People; the Prize was gained by his Majesty, even the vanquished could not be sensible of a higher Satisfaction than was that of submitting to such a Conqueror. Notwithstanding, there was some small Matter of doubt where the Success would

would fall, but Victory at last declared in Favour of the King, and the Queen who had a fine diamond Ring ready to bestow on the Victor, had a Sun-shine over her Countenance highly expressive of the Joy at Heart, and Pleasure she took in giving it to him; who she undoubtedly wished might obtain it. I saw this Ceremony at the *Sardinian* Embassadors. But amidst these Rejoicings great Uncertainty attends the Affairs of the Queen Mother. *Blenville* is returned; as to the Manner of her Majesty's returning to Court, it is to be observed, her Propositions are by no Means relished here; on the other Hand, she is greatly dissatisfied with those made to her, so that the Humour increases, looks inflamed, and threatens us with new Storms. While their Majesties remain divided, and at a Distance from each other, new Troubles will arise, even though the Queen herself was averse to it, Numbers of discontented People will make Use of her Name, to serve their own Ends. As to the Affairs of *Germany*, the necessary Succours rest as they did, and it is greatly to be feared, that the Army on the Frontiers, instead of penetrating into the Empire, will return into *France*, so disposed and ripe for Rebellion is every thing here. Mean time what more can we do, than fulfil the Duties of our Office, recommending the Event to God. That it may please the divine Being

(190)

Being to fend your Excellency all Prosperity,
is the sincere Wish of Sir, yours, &c.

Paris, May
1, 1620.

L E T T E R XXIII.

To the same, at Madrid.

YOUR Excellency made a just Remark when you said to a *French Gentleman*, that in regard to the Embassy sent from hence into *Germany*, it ought to have been purposely to declare War, and not to have acted by Way of Treaty; for by so doing, the Empire and Catholick Cause in *Germany*, had reaped real Advantages, by having a powerful Army on the Frontiers. Whereas, from these Negotiations what Benefit can be expected? Besides, that it was stipulated to assist by Arms only, and not by tedious Treaties. But your Excellency cannot be unacquainted with the Distresses which harass this Kingdom. This may be compared to an infirm crazy Body, labouring under a paralytick Disease, never to enjoy a perfect State of Health; nor recover its true Strength. All the Evils which afflict *France*, take their
Source

Source from these *Hugonot* Factions; even the Debates amongst the Catholicks themselves, are fomented and irritated by them, so that according to them this Monarchy will never recover its former Vigour, till such time as it has established a Constitution, or System of Government, different from that now subsisting. Such is that democratical Government the *Hugonots* are endeavouring to introduce into these Kingdoms. But sure nothing can be more destructive to royal Authority, than such a Republick. Their last Meeting at *Luden* held six Months, during which Time they were continually sending Deputies to Court, talking in the Stile of Sovereigns, as though they were to give, rather than receive Laws from the King, and at last they were obliged to disperse them, by means rather the Result of Art, than royal Authority. In few Words, *France* is now so circumstanced, she cannot do as she would, either for herself or others, so that there is daily less Cause to expect Supplies from hence, for the Support of the Catholick Religion in *Germany*. And now Affairs relating to the Queen Mother, keep the whole Kingdom in Suspence; so that little Attention is paid to foreign Occurrences. Nevertheless, without any Assurances from these Quarters, one may hope a happy Issue to these Matters. Count *Bucoy's* late Defeat of the *Bobemians* was of great

great Consequence. Already they look upon *Saxony* as brought over to their Imperial Interest, and we shall be able soon to form a Judgment what Effect those Orders sent to the *Palatine*, will have to quit *Bohemia* and the other usurped Dominions. His Majesty has again sent *Blenville* to the Queen Mother with Money, and to quiet her Fears if possible, that she may return to Court. But her Majesty cannot resolve to confide in them. She is agitated by a thousand different Passions, and more so through the subtle Artifice of others, than from her own natural Disposition. Thus are we situated amidst Uncertainties, and threatening Dangers, waiting the Event. I am, dear Sir, respectfully yours, &c.

Paris, June
5, 1620.

L E T T E R XXIV.

To the same, at Madrid.

I Acknowledge the Receipt of your Excellency's Favour of the 25th *Ult.* full of those usual Expressions of Kindness for me, to which I have long been accustomed ; it is
sufficient

sufficient to say they are your Letters, to suppose them wrote in the most obliging Terms. I am glad your Cold is better, we may reasonably hope the Mildness of the Season will remove all such Complaints. I am (God be thanked) in good Health, yet not without Uneasiness, chiefly upon Account of the Queen Mother. *Blennyville* is returned from thence, and is now going back again for the third Time, perhaps to as little Purpose; so much are Things exasperated, we are waiting for the Imposthume to break; for as I before remarked to your Excellency, the Disease is inward, deeply rooted in the Hearts and Minds of interested Parties, and how difficult is it for Medicine to reach the internal Parts, and perform a Cure, where so much Delicacy and Discernment is required: You will easily imagine hitherto it is a War of Jealousy, Doubts and Fears. God grant it does not soon shew itself in open Acts of Hostility. I write by a Courier extraordinary, which compels me to finish, before my Inclination assents so to do. With affectionate Respect, I am, dear Sir, &c.

Paris, June
28, 1620.

L E T T E R XXV.

To the same, at Madrid,

BY this Post I intend to make amends for the Brevity of my last Letter. And first must congratulate your Excellency upon the Resolution taken by his most Catholick Majesty, to attack the *Palatinate* with the Army of *Flanders*. If the Success answers the Design, as from many and substantial Reasons we may hope it will, the Elector *Palatine* must inevitably disgorge those Places he has so unjustly seized upon; and the divine Vengeance will retort back upon himself, those Mischiefs designed against others. Already the Army is assembled in *Flanders* to this Effect. Already the *Italian* Forces have passed the *Alps*, as those raised by the Count *de Vaudemont* at the Request of the Catholick League, have passed the *Rhine* without Opposition, and have by this Time joined the main Body of the Army, under the Command of the Duke of *Bavaria*, General of the League. There will be according to this Calculation three Armies; that of *Bucoy's* in *Bohemia*, that of *Bavaria's* destined (as it is conjectured) to attack the *Palatine* on the other Side the *Rhine*, and the Forces of *Flanders* to make an Attack on this Side; and

and admitting it to be true, that *Saxony* has with *Bavaria*, accepted the Deputation of executing the Imperial Degree, which it is expected will shortly be issued out against the *Palatinate*, there will be little Reason to fear that he, or any of his Adherents will be able to make Head against so powerful an Alliance as this is, which by the additional Troops of *Saxony*, would make four compleat Armies. From *Germany* they have little Cause to expect any great Assistance? It is true, the *United Provinces* may contribute something, but not sufficient to overthrow the Designs formed against them. *England* wants Money, the Sinews of War ; and that King is little able to assist his Son-in-Law, by other Methods equally efficacious ; so that the Roman Catholick Powers have all visible Advantages, and now or never, we must hope for a favourable Turn to our Affairs. But with regard to the Resolution taken by his most Catholick Majesty, to turn his Arms against the Elector *Palatine*, the Day before Yesterday Count *Ferdinand* came to communicate these Tydings to me : To-day he is to have an Audience of the King, and afterwards of the Ministry, and I am fully convinced his News will give all imaginable Satisfaction ; one of them Yesterday observed, that this would be a mortal Blow upon the Hereticks ; and indeed the only Method to make them repent of their Rash-

ness. As to the rest, they here seem well inclined to favour the Catholick Cause in *Germany*. Accordingly, the Embassadors from hence have Orders to proceed on directly for *Vienna*, as it is the Desire of the Imperial Court, that they should not waste the Time in fruitless Conferences with other Princes, so that we are in daily Expectations to hear of their Arrival in that City. They would willingly contribute their Assistance by something more powerful, but here domestick Feuds, become more than ever vexatious and intricate, so that it is by no Means adviseable to part with their Forces, when perhaps it may be necessary immediately to recall them. Every one is impatiently expecting the Arrival of *Blenville* from *Angers*, although from his former Negotiations little Success is promised. To say the Truth, some one more equal to the Task should be employed upon this Occasion, in whom her Majesty will more readily confide, and this they now begin to be sensible of; God grant they are not convinced too late. Fears and Jealousies daily increase, and each Party (though unwilling to begin Hostilities) are still taking Measures for coming to Action; and the Situation of Affairs is such, as render it unavoidable, even though they themselves were averse to it. If some lucky Expedient is not thought of to end these growing Troubles, we shall soon be involved in a Civil War, ever deplorable,
and

and attended with unhappy Consequences, even to the Conquerors themselves : But God of his infinite Goodness avert the bad Omens. We are here, in the Midst of Feasts and Diversions, last Week at the Princess of *Conti's*, and this, at the Countess of *Soissons*, and the Vigil of *St. John* at the Town House, to see the usual Fireworks. Her Majesty was present at all these Parties of Pleasure. I was likewise there, and all was conducted with the utmost Order and Decorum. We have here a *June*, mild as *April*; the Heats at *Madrid* are (I imagine) rather more intense, which I hope has contributed to cure your Excellency's Cold. I respectfully am, dear Sir, yours, &c.

Paris, June
14, 1620.

L E T T E R XXVI.

To the same, at Madrid.

IN my former Letter I observed to your Excellency, that a new Flame was at the Point of kindling here in these Kingdoms, and now it has happened the Imposthume is at length broke, and from every Quarter

War is declared, which has through the Subtlety of the Parties concerned, long been stifled and concealed. Soldiers are raising with all Expedition. His Majesty will have assembled in a little while a strong Body of Forces. The Queen Mother and her Allies are making Preparations equally formidable; so that if some Expedient is not (through the Mercy of God) immediately revealed to us, *France* must inevitably be the Theatre of War. Scarce had I forwarded my last Dispatches to your Excellency, when the Count *de Soissons*, and the Countess his Mother, abruptly left the Court under various Pretences of being slighted, and other such like frivolous Excuses. They went directly to the Queen Mother, and in the same Manner went with them the Grand Prior *Vendome*, and the Duke of *Nemours* went two Days before. Your Excellency will easily imagine the Disturbances these sudden Revolutions have occasioned, particularly the unexpected Flight of the Count *de Soissons*, a Prince of the Blood, whose very Name only is sufficient to give Strength to the Cause he interests himself in, though but a Youth of Sixteen; besides, his Mother is a Woman of Sense, and in high Esteem here with the Queen Mother; not only those already mentioned, but several Princes and People of Condition will be ready to join them. Accounts are come to *Paris* of some Commotions being kindled at *Roan* in

in *Normandy*, of which Province the Duke *de Longville* is Governor, a Person suspected by the King; for this Cause his Majesty has resolved to go immediately for that Place, that he may by his royal Presence, crush these growing Disturbances; notwithstanding which, the King would not go in a hostile Manner, having carried with him no more than his usual Guards, but reinforced so as to amount to four thousand Foot and five hundred Horse. We are at a loss to guess, how *Longville* will conduct himself. To-day it is reported, the Queen Mother is gone from *Angers*, accompanied with three thousand Foot and six hundred Horse, and has taken the Rout for *Normandy*, to assist and strengthen *Longville*. Her Majesty now reigning continues at *Paris* with the grand Chancellor, and others in publick Character, are left here to treat of Affairs which may happen during the Absence of the King. From this, your Excellency will easily conceive the Confusion we are in, and the fatal Consequences that are to be apprehended from it: Mother and Son thus divided, and the whole Kingdom involved in a Civil War. The *Hugonots*, alone united, reap Advantages from these intestine Discords subsisting amongst the Catholics. Nevertheless, his Majesty, while he is preparing for the worst Events, is continuing the Negotiations for Peace by the Means of *Blen-*
O 4
ville,

ville, who is now assisted in this important Affair by four of the principal Subjects his Majesty has; such as the Duke *de Monbasone*, the Duke *de Bellgarde*, Master of the Horse, the Archbishop of *Sens*, and the President *Jeannin*; and his Majesty has sent with them, Father *Berulle* (who shewed so much Zeal and Prudence upon the same Occasion last Year.) To such a Crisis are Things at this Juncture arrived, that it is easier to find out the Evil than administer the Cure, which is agreeable to the Sentiments of those I have already named, who before they set out paid me a Visit, and we conferred together a considerable time upon the present State of Affairs.

All Thoughts of sending Supplies from hence to *Germany* must be suspended, at least for some time. But we may hope for the best, even without the Assistance of *France*. By the last Advices all the Strength of the League were uniting with the Empire, and were entering *Bohemia*, and from thence the Army of *Flanders* will be sufficient to attack the *Palatinate*. God grant it may. The United Provinces are preparing to oppose them, and to this Effect are bringing into the Field (by all we can learn) ten thousand Foot and twenty-five hundred Horse. Part of the *Italian* Forces are already arrived in *Flanders*; the rest (which is their main Strength) are slow in advancing. To this
may

may be attributed the other Delays in *Germany*, by which they loose Time, and with that all other Advantages. May your Excellency enjoy uninterrupted Repose, and leave us to our Disquiets. I am, Sir, your obedient, &c.

Paris, July
9, 1620.

L E T T E R XXVII.

To the same, at Madrid.

AFFLICT me no more I beseech your Excellency, with such disagreeable Accounts concerning your Health: The dangerous Condition you have been in lately with the Stone and Gravel, has occasioned me the utmost Disquiet; God be thanked you are at length recovered, and the Weakness usual in such Illnesses greatly abated. I am in perfect Health, though sensibly affected with publick Calamities. Here as I before remarked, they are every where preparing to come to Hostilities, and the King has been obliged to go to *Caen* in *Normandy*, as those who commanded the Castle seemed to oppose his Majesty;

jesty ; but they at last surrendered. At *Roan*
 likewise, some Disturbances required the royal
 Presence to suppress them. *Longville's* Com-
 mand of that Government remained awhile
 suspended. It was reported he went to
Dieppe, and that the King had some Thoughts
 of following him there with the Army ; but
 it is generally believed, he would not choose
 to shut himself up in that Place any more
 than the grand Prior *Vendome*, who was not
 willing to confine himself in *Caen*, of which
 he was Governor. In the mean time the
 Deputies appointed by the King to attend
 the Queen Mother, are still there ; but she
 seems not inclinable to treat, except his Ma-
 jesty will first resolve to lay down his Arms.
 Lately Cardinal *Guise* retired from *Paris*,
 and has declared for the Queen Mother ; his
 two Brothers the Duke *de Guise*, and the
 Prince *de Joinville* are of the King's Party,
 and are already set out for their respective
 Governments. *Guise* for *Provence*, the other
 for *Auvergne*. Yesterday I waited on the
 good Duchess their Mother, your Excellency's
 Flame; even the Women are divided, the be-
 ing of one Opinion, and the Princess of
Conti, her Daughter, of another. Thus do
 we live in *France*, and such the Effect
 of Civil War, which commonly alienates
 the usual Affinity of Blood, and divides
 a Nation against itself. Her Majesty
 now

now reigning is here and frequent in Council.

Paris, July
22, 1620.

I am, Sir, &c.

L E T T E R XXVIII.

To the same, at Madrid.

YOUR Excellency's last Favour of the 17th *Ult.* came safe to Hand. I do not so much lament the Shortness of it, as the Occasion of that Shortness; the Remains of your late Indisposition, which has too long oppressed you. I hoped for better News, and still flatter myself, the next Accounts will be agreeable to my Wishes. We are now in our warmest Season, and very acceptable it is, for we have had a *July* uncommonly rainy, which has made it very sickly. I have scarce any thing more to say of *Paris*, but to talk of military Affairs now of more Consequence. The King has, it seems, judged it adviseable to leave *Longville* in *Dieppe*, and himself to go towards *Anjou*, and is already arrived upon the Confines, without meeting any Opposition. The Queen Mother did not make any Shew of Resistance at first, as was reported,

ported, but has since possessed herself of a Place called *La Fleche*, with Intention as it is supposed, to keep the King at bay ; however she has abandoned that Place, (as not capable to stand a Siege) and is returned to *Angers*. His Majesty has with him already fifteen thousand Foot and one thousand five hundred Horse ; the Queen Mother six thousand Foot and eight hundred Horse ; but on either Side the Forces daily increase. The Duke *de Maine* is soon expected in *Angers*. Shortly after the Arrival of the Deputies at *Angers*, Count *de Rochefort* Son to the Duke *de Monbafone*, was taken Prisoner, and the Father apprehensive of the like Fate, thought proper to escape, and immediately went over to the King, who sent him to *Paris*. These unlucky Accidents inclined his Majesty to recall his Deputies. But the Count being released, the Deputies remain with the Queen Mother. The Archbishop of *Sens* and Father *Berulle*, are now set out to go to the King ; little is expected from their Negotiations. The King (though desirous to give the Queen all reasonable Satisfaction) will not condescend to treat with others ; on the other Hand, the Queen will not abandon those Friends, who have shewn themselves firmly attached to her Interests. The King is within a Day's Journey of *Angers*, which Place declares strongly for him. His Proceedings hitherto could not have been more successful,

his

his Presence alone is equal to an Army. This is the State of Affairs in *France* at this Time. Those of *Germany* (which relate to the Catholics go on slowly, and in *Flanders* still more so. However it is reported the *Italian* Forces are arrived, so that it is expected they will soon come to Action in earnest, and that we shall hear. At the same time that the Army which was raised in Favour of the Emperor, and the Catholick League is in Motion. I sincerely wish your Excellency better Health, and remain, dear Sir, &c.

Paris, August
5, 1620.

L E T T E R XXIX.

To the same, at Madrid.

THE Post for *Rome* is now upon the Point of departing ; at the same time that a Courier extraordinary passes through this Place, with Dispatches from the *Spanish* Embassador in *England*, which obliges me to address your Excellency with the utmost Expedition. It is currently reported we have a Peace, and although it is not confirmed, it is generally believed. The Account is, that the King (at the Instigation of the Queen Mother)

Mother) is to include in the Agreement all those, who have joined her since last Year. To which the King more readily acquiesced, being sensible it would be attributed to a Benignity of Disposition in his Majesty, rather than to Weakness, the King having hitherto always had the Advantage; inso-much that he at last took *Pont de Se* from the Queen's Forces, of Course their Passage of the *Loire* was intercepted, and the Queen in a Manner confined within the Walls of *Angers*. God send this so much desired Reconciliation between Mother and Son may speedily happen, as it will not only be an Advantage to this Kingdom, but to Christianity in general; though to speak the Truth, one can scarcely say any real Enmity subsisted between their Majesties, but rather that their Names were subservient to the malicious Passions of others. Your Excellency is so well acquainted with the Disposition of the *French*, that you cannot be surprized at this sudden unforeseen Change in publick Affairs; or that when the impending Clouds seemed to threaten immediate Ruin! an unexpected Calm should succeed. I have not Time to add more, than that I am, &c.

Paris, August
12, 1620.

LETTER

L E T T E R X X X.

To the same, at Madrid.

Y O U R Excellency's Letter was as usual full of Kindnesses to me, but did not bring the wished-for Tydings that you have entirely recovered your Health; on the contrary, it is with utmost Concern I remark, that your Disorder is rather inclinable to a Relapse. In a former Account you seemed to intimate that your Illness abated a little; admitting that to be the Case, one would hope a thorough Cure would soon follow; with the utmost Impatience I wish it. God be thanked, I enjoy perfect Health, notwithstanding I have been fourteen Days upon the Road, exposed to excessive Heats, and numberless other Inconveniences, the common Fate of those that travel. The Peace I before mentioned to your Excellency, is at last confirmed. Their Majesties had an immediate Interview at *Brissac*; afterwards they had a Meeting at *Poitiers*, at which was present the Queen Consort. Various Affairs obliged me to go to *Poitiers*, at which Place I continued five Days. From thence the King went to *Bordeaux*, and the two Queens set out towards *Paris*; the reigning Queen is already arrived here, and the Queen Mother

is

is expected back in two or three Days. And to my great Satisfaction, after this unsettled disagreeable Life I am returned hither perhaps to a State of some Repose. Nevertheless, from the natural Mutability to which this Climate of *France* is particularly incident, my Fears are more predominant than my Hopes; notwithstanding, the Arrival of the Queen Mother at *Paris*, is a good Omen of Tranquility, her Majesty's Resolutions to come and reside at this Capital, were perfectly well judged. At *Poitiers* she did me the Honour to assure me, nothing should prevail with her to alter her Scheme, and I earnestly exhorted her to persevere in so laudable a Design. At the same time, I took the Liberty to tell her Majesty, that such a Determination taken the last Year at *Tours*, had saved her from an infinite deal of Trouble, which she since suffered at *Angers*. The Bishop of *Lusson*, has been the grand Instrument in compleating this Work, and indeed it was highly requisite, that some one with Power and Prudence equal to his, should be imployed in Opposition to so many others who found their Advantages in keeping the Flame alive. We shall now have a happy Union of all the royal Family, great and many Benefits may redound from it to this Kingdom in general. But what fine Opportunities have been lost for chastising the Insolence of the Hereticks to the Glory of
of

of the Church and King? It seemed as if Providence had designed their Ruin. The King's Forces united to those of the Queen Mother, *d' Epernon, du Maine*, together with others ready to join them, when they had not the least Apprehension of their Danger. Themselves reduced to a handful of Men, without any Prospect of Relief from Abroad; considering the present Situation of Affairs in *Germany*. I say all these Circumstances duly weighed, a finer Occasion for humbling these People could not have happened: Their audacious Pride like the Snow-Ball, goes on increasing; and it is evident amongst themselves they cannot agree about dividing the Rights of the Church; the *Hugonot* Faction and Spirit of Rebellion have always possessed these Kingdoms. *France* for a long Space of Time has been harrassed with foreign Wars, as likewise with domestick Feuds; but Peace has ensued, violent Antipathies have been converted to Union and Harmony, and that often times confirmed by the strongest Engagements and Alliances. Civil Wars formerly afflicted these Kingdoms, nevertheless the Power of both Church and State always continued; but since Heresy has infested this Country, and with that, the Tyranny of the *Hugonots*, there have been eternal Contests for Superiority between the Parties, which can never be totally overcome but by an absolute Victory over one or other of the Sects, either the *Romish*

P Faith

Faith must flourish, or yield itself a Victim to the Protestant Cause. We may then rest assured of what is already but too evident to each discerning Eye, that the Intention of the *Hugonots* is entirely to root up the royal Authority, and with it the Religion now practised. And to this End they are watching all Opportunities that may afford them any Advantages over us, for which Reason his Majesty should not omit any Occasion of suppressing them ; such as the taking from them all Places of Strength and Security, and breaking at least for the present their growing Factions; which would greatly weaken the Power of Heresy, since it is not to be doubted but the Growth of it in these Kingdoms, is chiefly owing to Faction ; so that once destroyed, the other of course decays. But since we have suffered so glorious an Opportunity for quelling them and their Schemes to slip through our Fingers, we must conclude the appointed Time is not yet arrived, when God shall bless this Nation with the utter Extirpation of them. The neighbouring Catholick Potentates are not a little interested in this Affair : *Spain* in particular has been ready to lend Assistance to *France*, that Monarch being sensible, that all will be inevitably lost if an immediate Stop is not put to their Proceedings. The Hereticks, particularly the *Calvinists* (to whom all Power is equally odious whether ecclesiastical or civil) must
highly

ingly rejoice! at involving these Countries in the common Ruin which they have brought upon others. But I have wandered too far from the Design of this Letter, more especially in an Affair, wherein your own Judgment ought to determine you, without being guided by the Sentiments of others. These Things are well known to your Excellency. To return then from this Digression. We have here with us in perfect Health the Queen Consort, who has conducted herself admirably well in this critical Conjuncture, with regard to the King and Queen Mother. We are impatiently waiting the Event of Affairs in *Germany*. The Duke of *Bavaria* is already in Possession of upper *Austria*, as your Excellency must have heard, and is now in *Bohemia*. The *Saxon* Forces advance slowly, and God only knows, if at last they may be relied on. Marquis *Spinola* has entered the *Palatinate*; and Marquis *Belvedere*, General of the *Flemish* Horse, with a strong Supply of Soldiery remains here, to observe the Motions of the United Provinces. On the other Hand, the Enemy's Forces are very considerable; and *Gabor* is already elected King by the *Hungarian* Rebels. Thus each Party is in Suspence, between Hope and Fear. God give Success to the just Cause. I am, most respectfully your Excellency's, &c.

Paris, September

24, 1620.

P 2

LETTER

L E T T E R XXXI.

To the same, at Madrid.

AT length I have received the agreeable News that your Excellency has entirely recovered your Health; and as all Symptoms of your late Indisposition are vanished, so I may hope it is firmly established: And now to preserve it must be your principal Care, tho' I know of no Method so effectual, as the constant Regularity you have ever observed. I am not unmindful of the Report your Excellency has made in my Favour to Marquis *Mirabello*, our new Embassador from his most Catholick Majesty to this Court. But before you promised so largely on my Part, you should have considered, that your Honour was with mine equally engaged, that I should in every Respect, answer the fine Character you have drawn of me: Be that as it will, I shall at least answer your Expectations in my readiness to serve the Marquis; we hear great Commendations both of him and his Lady. By the first Advices we expect an Account of their Departure from *Madrid*, but it is possible the King may meet them upon the Road, before he sees them at *Paris*, his Majesty being set out for the Confines of *Spain*, to reduce the *Hugonots* of *Bearn*

to

to a due Sense of their Obedience. Great is the Obstinacy of that stubborn People ; unwilling to submit, even though they see their Prince in Arms ready to subdue them. They are exasperated at seeing the Church restored to her just Rights, and that the free Exercise of Religion is permitted to all in general. Oh that every one here had embraced all Opportunities of serving the Church and King ! these Commotions in *Bearn* will prevent this Monarch from coming soon to this City. The Queen is returned from *Notre Dame de Liesle*, to which Place she went to perform a Vow. The Queen Mother did not arrive as was expected, going first to *Fontainbleau*; but it is believed she will be in *Paris* within four or five Days. In *Germany* Things go favourably enough for the Emperor. On the Part of the *Palatinate*, *Spinola* has made considerable Advances, *Bavaria* and *Bucoy* have joined their Forces, have dislodged the Enemy, and are actually in Pursuit of them, in firm Expectation of ruining them in their Retreat, or defeating them, should they come to an Engagement. On the other Side, *Gabor* is elected King, though not yet crowned, but keeps the Emperor at bay, till he sees the Issue of Affairs in *Bohemia* ; then to act as Interest shall guide him, which he understands perfectly well, being a Man of great Penetration, influenced by no Principle

so strongly as that of his own private Advantage. The Elector of *Saxony* is yet to be doubted? otherwise, the Emperor with the rest of the Catholick League, might in a Manner promise themselves Success; but he must soon determine on one Side or the other.

Paris, October
15, 1620.

I am, Sir, yours, &c.

P. S. Since the above written, Mr. *Scianvalone*, who is employed at this Court by the Duke of *Lorraine*, and is known to your Excellency, shewed me a Letter of the 10th Inst. which he had just received from Count *Vademont* at *Nancy*, with Advice that the Day before a Courier extraordinary passed through that Place, sent from the Emperor to the Archduke in *Flanders*, with the following Particulars, *viz.* That the 26th *Ult.* the Duke of *Bavaria* entered *Prague*; that the Elector *Palatine* seeing the Populace ready to join the *Bavarian* Troops, was with his Wife and Children retired to *Moravia* in Hopes of gaining Assistance from *Gabor*, and that the *Saxon* Forces had taken the Field in Favour of the Emperor. These Letters farther add, that the Marquis *Spinola* was already possessor of the greatest Part of the *Palatinate* on this Side the *Rhine*, and that the Pro-

Protestants who had undertaken to defend it, went away Post Haste. I was willing to communicate this good News to your Excellency, which will be received with double Pleasure, as an Omen of great Success in future, God grant it, and soon.

L E T T E R XXXII.

To the same, at Madrid.

I No sooner heard of the Arrival, then of the Departure of a Courier extraordinary, who takes this City in his Road from *Germany* to *Spain*; so that I must be brief in my Dispatches, more so than either my Inclinations, or your Excellency's long Letter requires I should be. But first let us give our Attention to publick, then to private Affairs. The News I wrote you concerning *Prague*, was, Sir, a false Rumour: But it is most certainly true, that the Elector of *Bavaria* and Count *Bucoy* are actually in Possession of several Places in the Neighbourhood of it; as likewise that the Elector of *Saxony* (having openly declared for the Emperor) has reduced *Lusatia* to submit to his Majesty: So that we may reasonably hope *Prague* of itself will shortly surrender. *Dampierre* has defeated

Gabor ; but was himself killed soon after in an Engagement to the inexpressible Sorrow of his Imperial Majesty. Since the last Letters no other Accounts have reached us concerning the *Palatinate*. But what does your Excellency say to our glorious Successes at *Bearn*? the Renown of it doubtless reached *Madrid* before it arrived at *Paris*. Father *Arnulfo*, Confessor to his Majesty, wrote to me of it by this Day's Post. The Restitution of ecclesiastical Rites to the lawful Owners, you must have already heard. Thanks be to God, who although (through his unerring Wisdom) he has not yet been pleased to give us an entire Victory over Heresy, has nevertheless granted to us this signal Advantage, as an Earnest of still greater. Happy is it for *Spain*, adjoining to those Places thus long infested with Heresy, particularly in *Bearn*, where for the Space of fifty Years the true Religion has been entirely suppressed, so that Mass was forbid, and the Churches never opened. But no more of these Matters. I rejoice to hear of your Health, and pray God to continue it to you. I return you Thanks for the Favours conferred upon the Collector of *Portugal*. He gave me an Account of the Civilities he had received from your Excellency in the most grateful Manner ; nor am I insensible as to my Part of the Obligation. I would say more, but Time does not correspond with

with my Inclinations ; so, dear Sir, farewell.

Paris, October
27, 1620.

L E T T E R XXXIII.

To the same, at Madrid.

TWO Days ago arrived the Marquis *Mirabello* and his Lady, though one can scarce say arrived, as they staid (till his House was ready for his Reception) at a Place two Leagues from this City. I immediately sent my Compliments, and have heard they merited those Encomiums your Excellency bestowed on them. They are soon expected at *Paris*. The Place appointed for their Residence is the Abby of *St. Germain*, which (as you may remember) is pleasant and convenient. Upon all Accounts I shall render them all the Services in my Power ; but more particularly, as it is your Excellency's Desire. As an Affair of the utmost Consequence, I conclude you recommended to the Marquis, the maintaining that Harmony and right Understanding, so essentially requisite between the two Crowns. Your Zeal in it when
here,

here, leaves no Room to doubt your Care. The Queen Mother is with us here in *Paris*, but a little indisposed in one of her Feet. The Day before Yesterday, I had my first Audience of her Majesty, sitting up in Bed; nevertheless, Yesterday she went in a Litter to see her new Buildings at *Luxemburg*, and was carried in a Chair through those Apartments already finished. We shall soon have his Majesty here; and it is imagined he will come Post, to surprize the Queen when she least expects him: So I was informed by the Queen Mother. His Return is impatiently wished for by the People, his Success at *Bearn* having acquired him immortal Renown. The *Hugonots* are vehemently enraged, and now threaten to form a general Assembly again at *Rochelle*; but so long as Victory crowns his Majesty's Arms, it is not their Time to bully. May it please God to destroy them, together with the rest of the Church's Enemies, particularly those in *Germany*: From thence no Accounts are brought us of any further Advantage gained by the Catholics, and the Winter approaches, a Season which will doubtless favour the Hereticks, except the Imperialists get Possession of *Prague*. God send we may soon have Advice of it. Mean while I am, with true Respect, dear Sir, yours, &c.

Paris, November
6, 1620.

LETTER

L E T T E R XXXIV.

To the same, at Madrid.

PRAGUE has at last surrendered to the Catholick Forces ; and Truth will shine so much the more splendid, seeing so many false Reports have industriously been propagated. In short, the Sum and Substance of our late Accounts are as follows, *viz.* That the Duke of *Bavaria* and Count *Bucoy* after several Advantages gained, at length came to a general Battle, and obtained a glorious Victory ; making their Entry into *Prague* upon the same Day. We received this News by an express Messenger, who passed through this City in his Way to *Spain*. This Success will be a Dagger to the Hearts of the *Hugonots*. And now what will *Bouillon* the Uncle of the Elector *Palatine* say ? principal Architect of all this fine-spun Scheme, who but the last Year (at the Ceremony of installing the Knights of the Holy Ghost) boasted, that whilst they were creating Knights in *France*, he made Kings in *Germany*. Now let him glory in his King without a Kingdom, his *Palatine* without a *Palatinate*, and I hope we may add his Elector deprived of his Electorate. They write that the Elector is fled from *Prague*, and that the
Numbers

Numbers killed or taken Prisoners, are not yet known. I congratulate your Excellency upon this fortunate Event of Affairs here. I have little more to add, to what I mentioned in my last. His Majesty has published a Declaration of High-Treason against all such *Hugonots*, who do not immediately disperse from *Rochelle*. I should be apt to imagine, this Defeat at *Prague* should intimidate them a little. Marquis *Mirabello* is arrived at *Paris*, and To-day is to have his first Audience. I have not yet seen him, for as your Excellency knows, the Customs of this Place does not permit of any Visits to Embassadors; till they have first publicly paid their Compliments to the royal Family. Two Days since arrived here, an Embassador extraordinary, from the Republick of *Venice*; his Business to this Court, is chiefly relative to the Affairs of the *Valteline*, in which they are very pressing, as it is to be hoped, a right Understanding between the two Crowns, will effectually settle this Matter as it should be. After returning your Excellency Thanks for your last obliging Favour, together with the fresh Civilities you have been pleased to shew the Collector of *Portugal* at my Request, I shall finish, with assuring you,

Paris, November
26, 1620.

I am, &c.

P. S.

P. S. This Moment Mr. *Bonuglio* is gone from me, who came with Compliments of Congratulation from the Duke *de Luines*, on the happy Success in *Bohemia*; and at the same time assures me, that the King is infinitely pleased with it. And to say Truth, his Majesty has great Cause to be elated, for this happy Change in our Favour; since this Blow given to the *Hugonots* in *Germany*, will fall with double Force upon the Hereticks in *France*, already stunned by that so lately received at *Bearn*.

L E T T E R XXXV.

To the same, at Madrid.

THE compleat Victory gained by the Catholicks in *Bohemia*, together with the taking of *Prague*, is at length confirmed. The Battle was fought not far from the Walls of the City, near a Pleasure House belonging to the Emperor. This total Defeat happened on the Aniversary of that Day, and upon the same Spot where the Rebels assembled last Year, to receive and compliment the Elector *Palatine* upon his making his Entry into *Prague*. The Enemy's Army were entirely routed;

routed ; and the common Report is, that there remained dead upon the Field of Battle six thousand, besides Abundance of Prisoners, amongst whom are many Officers of Distinction. The Elector *Palatine* and his Consort escaped the same Night *Prague* was taken, and as it was rumoured fled to *Silesia* ; but now it is uncertain where they are. *Gabor* seems a little intimidated at this Blow, and carries on his Negotiations with the Emperor more assiduously than ever : To which Purpose Embassadors from this King have been in Treaty with *Gabor*, and now one of them, viz. Mr. *de Preaux* is gone to him upon the same Account. The Elector of *Bavaria* immediately returned triumphant back to his own Dominions : Mean while Count *Bucoy* remains with the Army, daily acquiring fresh Laurels. The *Bohemian* Rebels have already submitted to the Emperor, and it is hoped that the Inhabitants of *Silesia* and *Moravia* will follow their Example, and that of *Lusatia* compelled to Obedience by the *Saxon* Forces. It has been lucky for the Enemy that it is Winter ; since had the Season been more favourable, the Imperialists had extended their Conquests yet farther in all Probability. We shall now see the Figure this Invader of Kingdoms will make, stript of Authority ; together with his wise Counsellor and favourite *Bouillon*. I, for my Part, desire no better Sport, than to see him divested

ed of his Electorate. And who is more worthy of it than the Elector of *Bavaria*? who is a Prince descended from the same House, distinguished for his Valour and Piety. The King of *England* seems to be making some Motions in Favour of his Son-in-Law, but too late; notwithstanding his Moderation throughout this Affair, is highly commendable, having never given the Elector *Palatine* the Title of King, nor (at least openly) approved so unjust an Usurpation. He has now assembled together the Parliament of *England*, as is supposed to ask of his People a Subsidy sufficient to assist his Son-in-Law; nevertheless it is imagined, he will chiefly bend his Thoughts to a Treaty with the Emperor, in order (if possible) to re-establish the Elector, in the quiet Possession of those Honours in his own House, of which he is in a Manner totally deprived. But to have done with foreign Affairs, and draw nearer Home: *France*, as usual, is always in some Emotion, agreeable to its natural Mutability. The *Hugonots* seem as if they would continue their Assembly, and don't only shew their ill Will at *Rochelle*, but in other Parts of the Kingdom. Every where they complain, threaten, and yet fear as if their own Weakness and the Incapacity of their Friends to succour them at this Juncture were not already sufficiently known. They have attempted to surprize *Navarreino* in *Bearn*; and

in

in short they cannot bear, that an Acquisition of so great Importance, should fall to the Church and King, so great was their Rage (or more properly speaking their Folly) that they would not believe the Success of the Imperialists, though it was several Times notified by the publick Prints, and fixed as is customary, upon *Pont-Neuf*. But with regard to their Assembly at *Rockelle*, his Majesty seems determined upon no Score whatever, to consent. In the mean while the King is gone to make a Tour into *Picardy*, and will go to *Calais*, from thence he will send Marshal *Cadenor*, Brother to the Duke de *Luines*, to compliment the King of *England*. An Ambassador extraordinary is sent from hence to the *Valteline*, likewise another to the *Grisons*, that the Religion and Government of those Parts may be properly settled. It is greatly wished for here, nor is it doubted but that *Spain*, as in the former Transactions in *Italy*, will be equally zealous in so good a Work. Your Excellency will be highly pleased to hear that Mr. *Bassompierre* is nominated the Ambassador; he is in great Esteem at this Court, and the Occasion of his going will furnish him with Means to shew his great Abilities. Oh! how I shall envy him his Interviews with your Excellency. Nevertheless, I flatter myself, that through the obliging Remembrance of one, or both perhaps, I shall not be totally forgot.

Marquis

Marquis *Mirabello* is much delighted at their making Choice of so worthy a Minister. I have frequently been with the Marquis and his Lady, and cannot enough admire their obliging Manner of Address; so affable and easy. I wish my Endeavours to please, may have been equally successful with theirs. We have, Sir, talked of you by the Hour, striving which should be most assiduous; I, in Enquiries after my Friend, or he in satisfying my Curiosity, and answering to all my Questions concerning you. But no more, than that I am sincerely, dear Sir, &c.

Paris, December
24, 1620.

L E T T E R XXXVI.

To the same, at Madrid.

YESTERDAY, which was *Christmas* Eve, I had the Honour to write to your Excellency. My Letter was scarce sent to the Post, when what you was pleased to favour me with, came safe to Hand by the Courier sent with Dispatches from *Spain* to *England*; by the same Opportunity (the
Q Post

Post being not yet set out) I add these few Lines, thankfully acknowledging the Receipt of yours: Your Joy for the Success of the Catholicks in *Bohemia*, is answerable to my Expectations; and to say Truth, nothing could give a greater Shock to Heresy, or be of equal Service to the Catholick Religion. I refer your Excellency to my former Letter for Information concerning the Affairs of the *Valteline*; as to the happy Alliance of their serene Highnesses, the Princes and Princesses, it has occasioned great Joy here. But will sadly disgrace us, if your Princess should become a Mother before our Queen. To-day the Duchess of *Luines* was safely delivered of her first Son, an Event of great Joy to the Duke her Husband, as their Posterity may reap the Benefit of his present high Favour one Day or other. I remain, dear Sir, &c.

Paris, December

25, 1620.

LETTER

L E T T E R XXXVII.

To the same, at Madrid.

WE often see that one smart Engagement puts an End to a tedious War ; and so it has happened in *Bohemia*, for since that memorable Defeat at *Prague*, all are disposed to swear Allegiance to his Imperial Majesty. But what is more desirable, it is hoped (as the last Advices brought an Account that *Gabor* had retreated) that the *Hungarians* will soon follow their Example. I imagine that the same Courier that is going to *Spain*, has been sent from *Flanders* with an Account of these Particulars. But this is only my own private Opinion, for as I have not seen the Marquis *Mirabello*, I know nothing certain about it. As to our Affairs here, nothing new has happened, except that his Majesty has been at *Calais*, and is expected at *Paris* within five or six Days. The Day before Yesterday I saw the Queen Mother, who told me, it was not improbable but the King might take Post, so as to arrive here against Twelfth-Day. Their Majesties are on good Terms at present, and the King has resolved (at the Request of the Queen) to make the Bishop of *Lusson* a Cardinal ; though to speak the Truth, his own Merit is sufficient

to promote him to that Dignity. Application has also been made by the King in Favour of another Prelate, the Archbishop of *Thoulouse*, Son to the Duke d' *Epernon*. We shall soon see what the Court of *Rome* will do in this Matter. The Archbishop of *Thoulouse* will take the Title of *Vallete*, and the Bishop of *Lusson* that of *Richlieu*, Titles possessed by the eldest Branch of their Families. But what a Storm has been near falling upon Count *Gondomer* in *England*, as your Excellency will have heard upon the Victory obtained over the Elector *Palatine*. A Report also prevailed, that the Princess his Consort was taken ; upon which, the Populace of *London* arose, and in a tumultuous Manner attacked the House of that Nobleman, who expected the worst that could happen from an enraged Mob. But the Riot ceased, and the King seemed disposed to give him all the Satisfaction he could desire. For it is incumbent on Princes to support their own Dignity in the Persons of their Ministers. To-day is the first of the new Year, may it prove happy to your Excellency; sincerely I wish it, and am most faithfully yours.

Paris, January
1, 1620.

LETTER

L E T T E R XXXVIII.

To the same, at Madrid.

A *Spanish* Courier has been some Days arrived, but brings no Letter from your Excellency ; nevertheless, I write to urge your Reply, and by a Tender of my best Services merit, in some Measure, the Continuance of your Favour. We are now in the Midst of our Carnival, and their Majesties are diverting themselves with a Company of *Italian* Comedians. At their first Appearance on the Stage, the Marquis *de Mirabello* and myself were present, and the Queen (though she did not understand the droll Part of the Drama) laughed heartily. The Marquis cannot forbear shewing his Surprise upon all Occasions, at the Freedoms and hurly burly of this Court. Before the Play began we assembled together in the Apartment of *Madam de Luines*, who now lyes-in. The King and Queen were there, and such a Mixture of Personages, as your Excellency has frequently met with here. The Marquis adapts himself extreamly well to the Manner of living here ; and is (to do him Justice) in all Respects an accomplished Gentleman. Your Excellency must have heard of some little Difficulties and Punctilioes,

concerning the Audience which the Marchioness his Lady, is to have of the Queen. But those, it is imagined, will be speedily adjusted, that she may relish the Pleasures of the *Louvre*, and receive those Honours due to her Rank. Though the King is but just returned from *Picardy*, they talk of his going into *Poitou*, to put a Stop to the Proceedings of the *Hugonots*, who continue their riotous Assemblies at *Rochelle*, notwithstanding the royal Prohibition ; but we have for this Journey only common Report. The Duke *du Maine* is arrived in this Town, and has a troublesome Ague upon him. The News from *Germany* turns in Favour of the Catholics, and the Nuncio writes to me, that from *Hungary* better Accounts are daily expected ; unless *Gabor* takes Courage from a Victory of Consequence, gained by the *Turks* over the *Polanders*. May it please God to protect and prosper the Cause of the Catholics. I am, dear Sir, yours.

Paris, January
16, 1620.

LETTER

L E T T E R XXXIX.

To the same, at Madrid.

A Courier passes through this City, but in so much Haste (while I am myself so hurried by a Multiplicity of Business) that I can scarce find time to acquaint your Excellency of my Promotion; for from the time I received the News of my being made a Cardinal till now, my House has been crouded with Company. Certainly I have great Cause to be satisfied, that their Majesties express so much Pleasure upon this Occasion; and I find myself so much approved of by this Court in general, that I cannot wish to be in higher Esteem. As to the Pleasure your Excellency will take in this my new Preferment, I have no Reason to doubt it, from your known Partiality to me, and my Attachment to your Service, was, I flatter myself, visible, antecedent to obtaining this Dignity. But to lay aside Ceremony, I have a thousand Things both publick, and private, to write to you about with the first Opportunity; though now have only Leisure to add how very sincerely I am, &c.

Paris, January
16, 1621.

L E T T E R

L E T T E R XL.

To the same, at Madrid.

WHAT Vicissitude attends all sublunary Affairs! No sooner had I received the News of my Preferment, but immediately I am informed of the unexpected Death of his Holiness *Paul V.* of blessed Memory. And I assure your Excellency, my Grief is equal to the Greatness of my Obligations; nor am I less indebted for the Confidence he placed in me for so many Years, than for this last signal Mark of his Favour. Already methinks *Rome* is in the utmost Confusion, and every one in Doubts concerning the new Election. I wish to be there in Time to fulfill the Duties of my Office, and to manifest my Attachment in Favour of Cardinal *Borghese*. But the Season is so extremely severe, the Journey so long, and my Frame of Body so delicate, that I rather wish, than really promise myself the being present at the Decision of this important Affair. And at the Instant I am writing to your Excellency there is fallen so deep a Snow, that in Appearance the Winter is now beginning, when it is (according to the just Calculation of Time) near its Conclusion. The Voyage by Sea from *Marseilles* to

to *Civita Vecchia*, at this Season of the Year is too uncertain and too dangerous ; so that I am determined to go by Land as far as I conveniently can. From hence to *Burgundy*, where I will embark upon the *Soane* to *Lyons*; from which Place by Land, over the *Alps* of *Savoy* ; and when arrived in *Italy*, by the high Road to *Rome*. I write this in the utmost Haste, encroaching on those Moments which should forward my Departure from hence, which will be (God willing) in two Days. Having already had my Audience of Leave of their Majesties, and of Consequence am disengaged from publick Affairs. The royal Family I leave happily united ; but the Tranquility of the Kingdom in general, not so firmly fixed as it should be ; nor can it be otherwise, so long as the *Hugonot* Faction prevails, and sets afloat continual Disturbances. It is evident their Intentions are to spread the Infection of Heresy throughout *France* and *Holland* ; for in Defiance of the royal Mandate (which strictly prohibited such riotous Proceedings) they hold their usual Assembly at *Rockelle*. But his Majesty is determined to reduce them to Obedience by Force of Arms, if a milder Treatment is ineffectual. Perhaps God designs to confound their Devices, and make them by their Rashness instrumental to their own Destruction. How these Matters go
on,

on, and whatever else material may happen in these Parts, the Marquis *Mirabello* will from Time to Time inform your Excellency. He shews the most anxious Desire to see a good Harmony subsist between the two Crowns. And it is easily discerned, how much he is indebted to you, Sir, for some useful Instructions, which (joined to his own great Abilities) have rendered him capable of managing Affairs of the utmost Consequence; as, to say Truth, the Business relative to the *French* and *Spanish* Dominions includes almost that of all *Europe*. The Marchioness his Lady, conducts herself with a consummate Prudence and Gentleness of Manners, and both conform extremely well to the Customs of the Country, and Ways of this Court. But no more Letters from *Paris*. I will write to your Excellency on my Arrival at *Rome*: Perhaps sooner, if the Hurry of travelling permits. As to the rest, I am sensible your usual Kindness will not fail me; and in Return, my most affectionate Regard shall constantly attend your Excellency. With the most fervent Wishes for your Happiness, I am, dear Sir, &c.

Paris, February
20, 1621.

F I N I S.

GEORGE STEIDEL,

Bookseller and Stationer,

At the *Bible and Crown*, in *New
Bond-Street*.

SELLS Books in all Languages and Faculties; also Bibles, Common Prayer Books, Books of Devotion, School-Books, Plays, Pamphlets, fine Writing Paper, Pocket-Books, Account Books, Letter-Cases, Brown and Whited Brown Paper; Ink-Stands, Slates, Black-Lead Pensils, fine Gilt Paper, Wax, Pens, Ink, and all other Stationary Wares: Also great Variety of Prints, Maps, Paintings on Glass, &c. Water-Colours, Crayons and Camel-Hair Pencils. Pictures and Prints neatly framed and glazed. Books bound in all Manner of Sorts of Bindings: Likewise gives ready Money for any Library or Parcel of Books.



